DC
SUPERMAN
NATIONAL COMICS
MYSTERY IN SPACE
10c
DEC.
JAN.
NO. 23
WHO WILL BE THE FIRST PIONEERS TO TRAVEL FROM EARTH TO ANOTHER PLANET? FOR THE STARTLING ANSWER
Read...
"MONKEY-ROCKET to MARS!"
WELCOME, EARTHMEN, TO THE PLANET MARS!
IK! IK!

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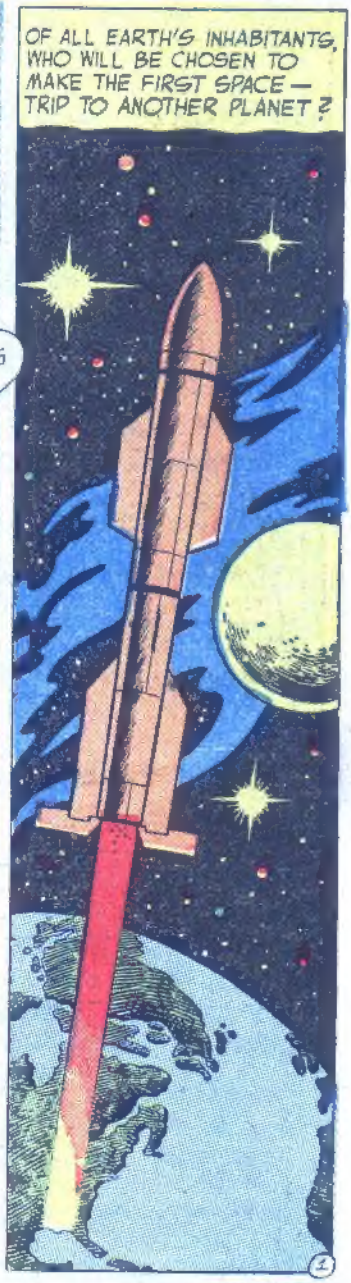
MONKEY-ROCKET TO MARS!

WHO HOLDS THE PRESENT WORLD RECORD FOR HIGH FLYING? IT IS TWO **CHIMPS**, WHO RECENTLY WERE SENT ROCKETING 123 MILES ABOVE EARTH AND RETURNED ALIVE! SUCH TEST ANIMALS ARE EMPLOYED BY SCIENCE TO PAVE THE WAY FOR HUMANS TO JOURNEY THROUGH SPACE! WHAT HAPPENS WHEN TWO PIONEERING CHIMPS REACH MARS, IS SOMETHING ENTIRELY UNEXPECTED BY EARTHMAN AND MARTIAN!



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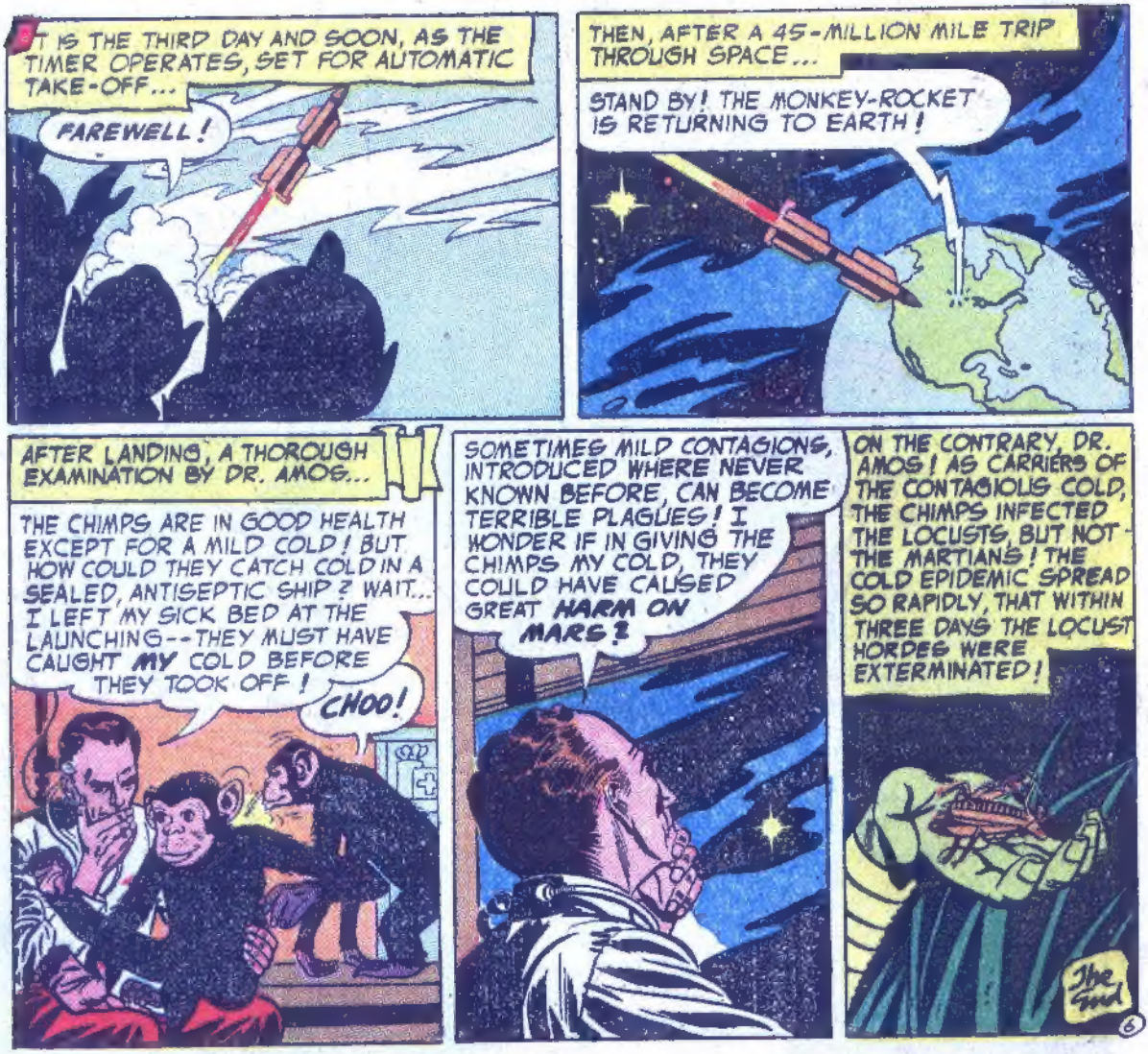
MEET THE TWO DARING PIONEERS FROM THE EARTH DESTINED TO BE THE FIRST TO LAND ON MARS...
IK IK IK!
IK IK!
MEANWHILE, ON EARTH, ANXIOUS EYES FOLLOW THE COURSE OF THE MONKEY-ROCKET THROUGH SPACE...
YOU'RE A TRUE SCIENTIST, DR. AMOS, GETTING UP FROM A SICK BED TO MAKE THE FINAL MEDICAL CHECK-UP OF THE TWO CHIMPS BEFORE TAKE-OFF!
IT WAS IMPORTANT! ;SNIFF! IF THE CHIMPS SURVIVE THE HAZARDS OF INTERPLANETARY FLIGHT, THEN WE KNOW HUMANS CAN TOO!
AS THE EARTH-ROCKET APPROACHES MARS, A WAVE OF EXCITEMENT RIPPLES ACROSS THE PLANET...
NO DOUBT ABOUT IT NOW! THE CRAFT FROM THE THIRD PLANET IS GOING TO LAND ON MARS! WE MUST PREPARE A ROUSING RECEPTION FOR THE EARTHMEN!
AS AUTOMATIC DEVICES LOWER THE ROCKET SAFELY, IT HAS ARRIVED AT A CRITICAL TIME FOR THE MARTIANS...
THE FIRST VISITORS FROM SPACE--TO A DYING WORLD! PERHAPS THE SUPER-SCIENTIFIC EARTHMEN CAN SAVE US FROM EXTINCTION!
UNKNOWN TO THE MARTIANS, THE ROCKET HAS BEEN SET TO REMAIN ON MARS FOR THREE DAYS, WHILE AUTOMATIC INSTRUMENTS RECORD DATA ABOUT AIR-DENSITY, TEMPERATURE, GRAVITY, AND SO ON...
IK IK IK?
CLICK!
WHIRRRR!
NOR DO THE MARTIANS KNOW THAT IT IS NOT PART OF THE TEST FLIGHT FOR THE CHIMPS TO LEAVE THE SHIP...
WHY DON'T THE EARTHMEN COME OUT?
PERHAPS THE SHOCK OF LANDING INJURED THEM!
WE'LL OPEN THE DOOR AND HELP THEM OUT!

MOMENTS LATER, THE FIRST EARTH BEINGS SET FOOT ON MARS...
WELCOME, EARTHMEN, TO THE PLANET MARS!
NATURALLY, THE MARTIANS ASSUME THAT THE CHIMPS THEY SEE ARE REPRESENTATIVES OF EARTH'S CIVILIZATION...
KRAWWW! (THIS IS THE WAY WE GREET STRANGERS ON MARS! I HOPE THE EARTHMEN UNDERSTAND!)
IN RESPONSE, A CHIMP LEAPS ON A MARTIAN'S SHOULDER AND...
HE'S TUGGING AT MY EAR! TH--THIS MUST BE THE EARTHLY WAY OF GREETING! WE MUST NOT BE SURPRISED AT AT ANY ECCENTRIC THINGS THEY DO! REMEMBER, THEIR CUSTOMS ARE UNDOUBTEDLY DIFFERENT THAN OURS!
BUT THERE IS NO TIME TO WASTE! LET US BRING THEM TO THE CITY AND LEARN THEIR LANGUAGE!
YES, THE SOONER WE TELL THEM OF OUR GREAT MENACE, THE SOONER THEY CAN HELP US SAVE MARS!
SOON, IN A MARTIAN LABORATORY...
THEY SEEM TO PREFER THAT AWKWARD POSITION! WHEN WE HAVE RECORDED ENOUGH OF THEIR STRANGE LANGUAGE, WE WILL ANALYZE AND TRANSLATE IT!
IK IK IK!
LATER, AS THE MARTIANS STUDY THE MONKEY GIBBERISH...
WE CANNOT TRANSLATE THEIR QUEER WORDS! SINCE WE HEAR ONLY ONE SYLLABLE, PERHAPS THE REST OF THEIR WORDS ARE IN THE ULTRASONIC LEVEL, BEYOND THE RANGE OF OUR EARS! TEACH THEM OUR LANGUAGE INSTEAD!
IK IK!

THE CHIMPS ARE TAUGHT THE MARTIAN A-B-C's...
XAG DUK ZIG...
XAG DUK ZIG! THEY GIVE NO SIGN THAT THEY HEAR US! THEIR EARS, TOO, ARE ATTUNED ONLY TO THE ULTRA-SONIC RANGE!
IT IS A MADDENING DILEMMA FOR THE DESPERATE MARTIANS...
TWO EARTHLY GENIUSES HERE, AND WE CANNOT ESTABLISH COMMUNICATION WITH THEM! AND ALL THE WHILE OUR PEOPLE ARE STARVING...DYING...
THEN THE CHIMPS ARE TAKEN FOR AN AIR-PLANE TRIP...
THERE IS ONE FINAL HOPE! WE'LL SHOW THEM WHAT'S HAPPENING! FROM OVERHEAD THEY CAN SEE HOW OUR FOOD CROPS GROW ONLY IN NARROW FRINGES ALONGSIDE CANALS! THE REST IS BARREN DESERT!
SOON, AS THE PLANE LANDS ALONG THE BANK OF A MARTIAN CANAL...
OBSERVE, EARTHMAN, HOW OUR GREEN FIELDS ARE BEING STRIPPED BARE BY HUNGRY LOCUST HORDES! MARS FACES FAMINE! DO YOU UNDERSTAND--?
YIII!
STUNG BY A LOCUST, ONE OF THE CHIMPS SEIZES IT AND FLINGS IT TO THE GROUND...
IK IK IK!
LOOK! HE STAMPED ON IT! HE IS TELLING US THAT HE WILL HELP US STAMP OUT THE LOCUSTS! AT LAST THEY UNDERSTAND!
LATER, THE PLAYFUL CHIMPS ARE SET UP IN A LABORATORY...
IF ONLY THEIR SUPER-SCIENCE CAN PERFECT AN INSECTICIDE!

LOOK, HE'S FILLING THAT SPRAY GUN! AFTER ONLY THREE DAYS THEY'RE READY TO TEST THEIR LOCUST POISON!
AS A STRAY LOCUST CATCHES THE CHIMP'S EYE...
THE POISON WORKS! IT STOPPED THE LOCUST DEAD IN ITS FLIGHT!
SWIFTLY, THE MARTIANS SPRAY THE LOCUSTS ALONG THE CANALS...
THE LOCUST PLAGUE IS BEING EXTERMINATED! MARS IS SAVED!
IN GRATITUDE, THE MARTIANS HOLD A PARADE TO HONOR THE CHIMPS!
IK IK!
KRAWW! KRAWW! HOORAY FOR THE EARTHMEN!
AS THE PARADE PASSES BY THE SPACE-SHIP...
THEY'RE RUSHING BACK INTO THEIR SHIP! WHO CAN BLAME THEM FOR BEING HOMESICK AND ANXIOUS TO RETURN?
ACTUALLY, THE CHIMPS HAVE ONLY RETURNED TO A PLACE FAMILIAR TO THEM, IN A STRANGE WORLD--WITH THE ADDED ATTRACTION OF A FAVORITE FOOD UNKNOWN ON MARS...
WE HAVE CLOSED THE DOOR FOR YOU, EARTHMEN! WE WISH WE COULD SERVE YOU MORE, FOR YOUR GREAT ACCOMPLISHMENT!
SLAM!


IT IS THE THIRD DAY AND SOON, AS THE TIMER OPERATES, SET FOR AUTOMATIC TAKE-OFF...
FAREWELL!
THEN, AFTER A 45-MILLION MILE TRIP THROUGH SPACE...
STAND BY! THE MONKEY-ROCKET IS RETURNING TO EARTH!
AFTER LANDING, A THOROUGH EXAMINATION BY DR. AMOS...
THE CHIMPS ARE IN GOOD HEALTH EXCEPT FOR A MILD COLD! BUT HOW COULD THEY CATCH COLD IN A SEALED, ANTISEPTIC SHIP? WAIT... I LEFT MY SICK BED AT THE LAUNCHING--THEY MUST HAVE CAUGHT MY COLD BEFORE THEY TOOK OFF!
CHOO!
SOMETIMES MILD CONTAGIONS, INTRODUCED WHERE NEVER KNOWN BEFORE, CAN BECOME TERRIBLE PLAGUES! I WONDER IF IN GIVING THE CHIMPS MY COLD, THEY COULD HAVE CAUSED GREAT HARM ON MARS?
ON THE CONTRARY, DR. AMOS! AS CARRIERS OF THE CONTAGIOUS COLD, THE CHIMPS INFECTED THE LOCUSTS, BUT NOT THE MARTIANS! THE COLD EPIDEMIC SPREAD SO RAPIDLY, THAT WITHIN THREE DAYS THE LOCUST HORDES WERE EXTERMINATED!
The End
6

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The ADVENTURES OF THE DUBBLE BUBBLE KIDS-

HERE IS THE TRICK WHICH HAS AMAZED VISITORS FOR MANY, MANY YEARS-

AND THIS, OF COURSE, IS THE FAMOUS INDIAN ROPE TRICK WHICH IS A MYSTERY TO ALL WHO SEE IT!

AND THIS...

I THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME I SHOWED THEM OUR TRICK-

RIGHT!

B-BUT THIS IS UNBELIEVABLE!

YEP! YOU OUGHT TO SELL TICKETS TO SEE US AND OUR DUBBLE BUBBLE GUM!

1¢

FLEER DUBBLE BUBBLE GUM

IT IS THE MIRACLE OF THE CENTURY!

FOR REAL FUN CHEW DUBBLE BUBBLE GUM!

-WITH LONG-LASTING FLAVOR!

COMICS, FACTS, AND FORTUNES IN EVERY PIECE!

FRANK H. FLEER CORP., PHILA. 41, PA.

ESCAPE from EARTH!

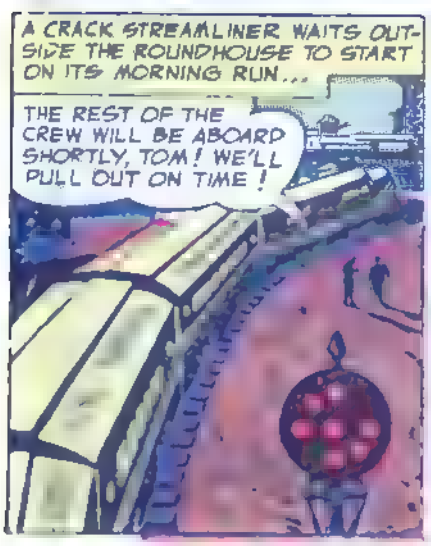
A PROJECTILE SHOT FROM THE SURFACE OF THE EARTH WITH A SPEED OF 7 OR MORE MILES A SECOND WOULD RUSH OFF INTO SPACE AND LEAVE THE EARTH FOREVER...

IT WOULD TAKE A SPEED OF 27 MILES A SECOND TO FORCE THE PROJECTILE NOT ONLY TO LEAVE THE EARTH FOREVER, BUT THE WHOLE SOLAR SYSTEM AS WELL...

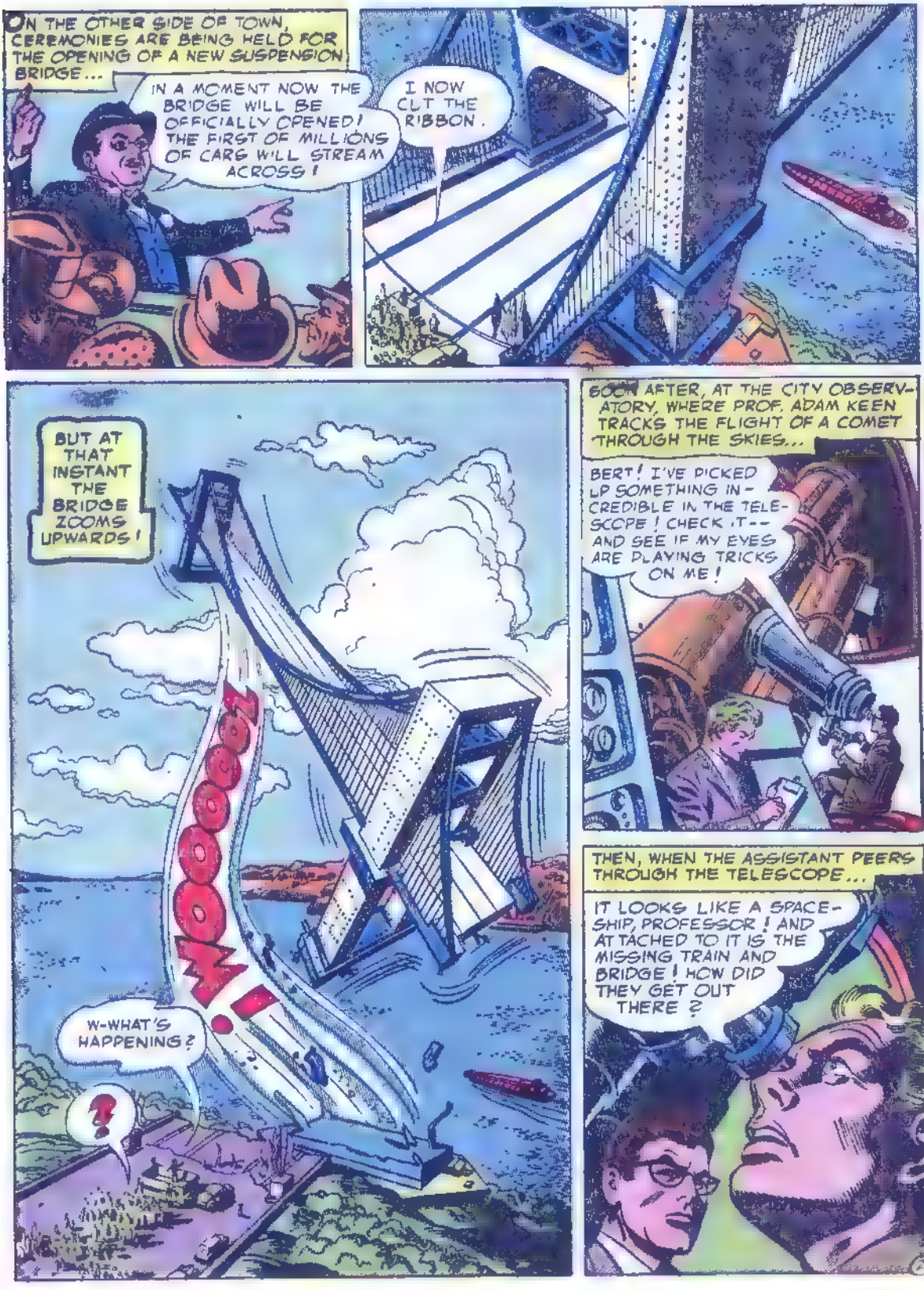
WE'RE PASSING PLUTO AND HEADING FOR THE NEAREST STAR, ALPHA CENTAURI!

IF THE PROJECTILE WERE SHOT OFF THE EARTH WITH THE SAME VELOCITY AS THE EARTH'S REVOLUTION ABOUT THE SUN (18½ MILES A SECOND), IT WOULD DESCRIBE A YEARLY ORBIT AROUND THE SUN EXACTLY LIKE THAT OF EARTH...

THE TERRIBLE MENACE A PIRATE CRAFT FROM ANOTHER
TRICK THEM WITH.
The TROJAN HORSE OF SPACE!


A CRACK STREAMLINER WAITS OUTSIDE THE ROUNDHOUSE TO START ON ITS MORNING RUN...
THE REST OF THE CREW WILL BE ABOARD SHORTLY, TOM! WE'LL PULL OUT ON TIME!

BUT JUST AS THE TWO PREPARE TO CLIMB ABOARD--THE TRAIN SHOOTS SKYWARD...
?
!
LOOOOOOOOM!


ON THE OTHER SIDE OF TOWN, CEREMONIES ARE BEING HELD FOR THE OPENING OF A NEW SUSPENSION BRIDGE...
IN A MOMENT NOW THE BRIDGE WILL BE OFFICIALLY OPENED! THE FIRST OF MILLIONS OF CARS WILL STREAM ACROSS!
I NOW CUT THE RIBBON.
BUT AT THAT INSTANT THE BRIDGE ZOOMS UPWARDS!
WOOOOOO!
W-WHAT'S HAPPENING?
?
SOON AFTER, AT THE CITY OBSERVATORY, WHERE PROF. ADAM KEEN TRACKS THE FLIGHT OF A COMET THROUGH THE SKIES...
BERT! I'VE PICKED UP SOMETHING INCREDIBLE IN THE TELESCOPE! CHECK IT--AND SEE IF MY EYES ARE PLAYING TRICKS ON ME!
THEN, WHEN THE ASSISTANT PEERS THROUGH THE TELESCOPE...
IT LOOKS LIKE A SPACESHIP, PROFESSOR! AND ATTACHED TO IT IS THE MISSING TRAIN AND BRIDGE! HOW DID THEY GET OUT THERE?

SINCE THE BRIDGE AND TRAIN ARE ALL METAL, I CAN ONLY GUESS THAT THE SPACE-SHIP CARRIES A POWERFUL ELECTRO-MAGNET THAT ATTRACTS METALLIC OBJECTS OUT INTO SPACE!
BUT FOR WHAT PURPOSE?
IT'S AN INTERPLANETARY THEFT ON A WHOLESALE SCALE, BERT! BUT JUST WHY THEY STOLE THE TRAIN AND BRIDGE I CAN'T FIGURE OUT!
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO DISCOVER WHAT'S BEHIND THIS! BY GOING OUT AFTER THEM IN SPACE!
HOW CAN WE DO THAT? NONE OF OUR EXPERIMENTAL ROCKETS HAS GONE THAT FAR OUT INTO SPACE!
BOTH THEFTS HAVE BEEN MADE FROM OUR CITY--AND THERE'S REASON TO BELIEVE MORE WILL FOLLOW! THE METAL-COSE BUILDING, NOW NEARLY COMPLETED, IS THE LARGEST REMAINING METAL OBJECT WE HAVE!
LATER...
WE'RE GOING TO GET SPACE-SUITS AND WAIT INSIDE THAT BUILDING! WHEN THE PIRATE SHIP YANKS IT OUT INTO SPACE, WE'LL BE INSIDE!
A SORT OF TROJAN HORSE!
LATER, IN A SEALED ROOM OF THE METAL-COSE BUILDING
BUT WHAT IF THIS BUILDING IS NOT THEIR NEXT TARGET?
WE'VE GOT TO TAKE THAT CHANCE! BESIDES, THERE'S NOTHING ELSE WE CAN DO!

HOUR AFTER HOUR PASSES--THEN SUDDENLY, THE BUILDING QUAKES VIOLENTLY...
PROFESSOR! THE BUILDING IS BEING TORN OUT OF ITS VERY FOUNDATIONS!
YES, BERT--THIS IS OUR "TAKE-OFF"!
R-R-R-R! ROAR!
THEN, SWIFTLY, THE TOWERING ALL-METAL BUILDING IS LIFTED SKYWARD...
INCREDIBLE! THIS BUILDING WEIGHS THOUSANDS OF TONS!
YET IT IS BEING PICKED UP AS EASILY AS A CHILD PICKS UP A TOY BLOCK!
WOOOOM!
FINALLY, FAR OUT IN SPACE, THE METAL-CASED BUILDING FORMS THE THIRD LINK IN THE STRANGE TRAIN.
JOURNEY'S END, BERT! COME ON--LET'S SEE WHO'S IN THE SPACE-SHIP--AND WHAT THEY'RE UP TO!
OUR MAGNETIC-SOLED BOOTS WILL KEEP US FROM FALLING AND DRIFTING OFF INTO SPACE!
AND WE CAN TURN THE MAGNETIC POWER ON AND OFF AS WE CHOOSE!
AS THE EARTH-DUO STRIDES ACROSS THE TRAIN, A GREAT DOOR SWINGS OPEN FROM THE SIDE OF THE SPACE-CRAFT, FORMING A GIANT PLATFORM...
THAT'S THE GIANT MAGNET! THEY'RE GETTING SET TO ATTRACT SOMETHING ELSE UP HERE! WE'VE GOT TO HURRY, BERT!

GAINING THE TOP OF THE SPACE-SHIP, ABOVE THE ALIEN CREATURES THE EARTHMEN LEAP
CAREFUL--WE'VE SWITCHED OFF OUR MAGNETIC BOOTS... AND UNLESS WE MAKE THE RIGHT JUMP, WE'LL GO HURTLING OFF INTO SPACE!
STUNNED BY THE UNEXPECTED APPEARANCE OF THE EARTHMEN THE CREATURES ON THE SPACE-SHIP ARE QUICKLY SUBDUED.
I DON'T KNOW WHETHER YOU CAN UNDERSTAND ME... BUT START EXPLAINING ALL THIS BUSINESS OR YOUR FRIEND HERE IS IN TROUBLE!
WE UNDERSTAND YOU, EARTHMAN--AS YOU WILL UNDERSTAND US THROUGH THIS TRANSLATING DEVICE! WE HAVE NO WEAPONS--WE ARE NOT WARLIKE! WE ARE FRIENDS!
THEN, WHY DID YOU STEAL THESE TREMENDOUS METAL OBJECTS FROM EARTH?
IT WAS OUT OF NECESSITY, EARTHMAN! OUR PEOPLE--INHABITANTS OF A PLANET IN ANOTHER SOLAR SYSTEM--FACE DESTRUCTION SOON UNLESS WE SECURE ENOUGH METAL TO BUILD MORE SPACE-SHIPS! I'LL EXPLAIN...
"ONLY TWO SUNS AGO WE OF THIS CRAFT WERE OUT ON AN EXPLORATORY TRIP--AND UPON RETURNING TO OUR HOME PLANET RECEIVED FRANTIC TELE-CALLS,
DON'T COME NEAR OUR WORLD! WE ARE ALL DOOMED IF YOU LAND!
WHY? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
ALL METAL ON OUR PLANET IS RAPIDLY BEING DESTROYED! YOURS IS THE ONLY SPACE-SHIP UNTOUCHED BY THE BLIGHT...
"WHILE YOU WERE AWAY, OUR PLANET WENT THROUGH THE TAIL OF A MIGHTY COMET, WHICH LEFT OUR ATMOSPHERE FILLED WITH STRANGE, POISONOUS GASES.

I BET THE POISONOUS GASES DESTROYED ALL METALS ON THE PLANET
THE ROCKY FORMATIONS WERE NEXT ONLY OUR TIMBERLANDS REMAIN UNTOUCHED BY THE BLIGHT
SOON THE ENTIRE ATMOSPHERE OF OUR WORLD WILL BE CONTAMINATED! ALL OF OUR PEOPLE WILL DIE UNLESS WE OBTAIN METAL AND BUILD ENOUGH SPACE-SHIPS TO RESCUE THEM FROM OUR POISON PLANET!
HE HAD NO INTENTION OF DESTROYING EARTH OR CAUSING ANY HARM! OUR ONLY DESIRE IS TO BUILD A FLEET OF SPACE-SHIPS ON OUR MOON AND THEN USE THEM TO MOVE OUR PEOPLE TO ANOTHER HABITABLE PLANET!
I UNDERSTAND! YOU HAD NO TIME TO REFINE METALLIC ORES SO HAD TO STEAL MANUFACTURED METAL!
BUT WOULDN'T THE BLIGHT ALSO DESTROY YOUR NEWLY-BUILT SPACE-SHIPS WHEN THEY LAND ON THE PLANET?
WE PROPOSE TO USE PLAGUE-FREE WOODEN SHIPS TO TAKE OUR PEOPLE OFF THE PLANET AND THEN TRAIN FOR THEM TO HAVE NO SPACE-SHIPS ABOVE THE POISON BELT OF ATMOSPHERE!
I AM SURE I SPEAK FOR EARTH WHEN I TELL YOU WE WILL BE GLAD TO CO-OPERATE IN HELPING YOU BUILD THE SPACE-SHIPS YOU NEED! BUT FIRST YOU MUST RETURN OUR STOLEN OBJECTS AND LAND YOUR SHIP ON EARTH!
AND AS EARTH'S STOLEN METAL OBJECTS ARE RETURNED TO THEIR ORIGINAL POSITION
WE SHALL SEND THE WORD THROUGHOUT THE UNIVERSE HOW EARTH SAVED OUR DOOMED PEOPLE!
THE END

NOW MORE THAN EVER

LOOK FOR THIS FAMOUS SYMBOL!

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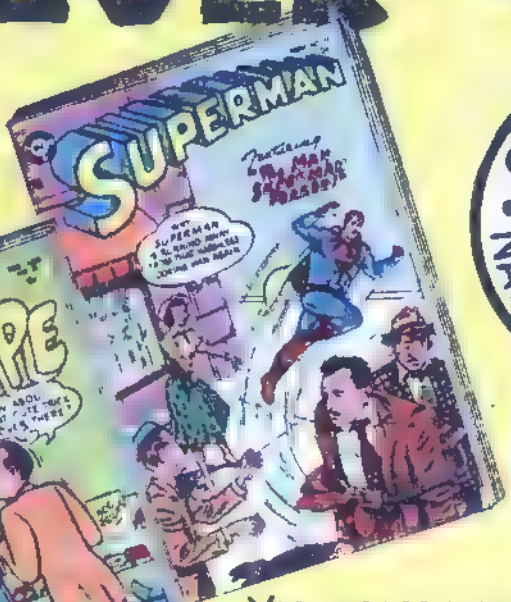
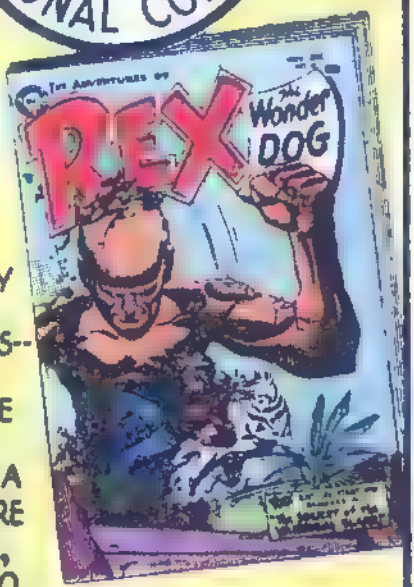
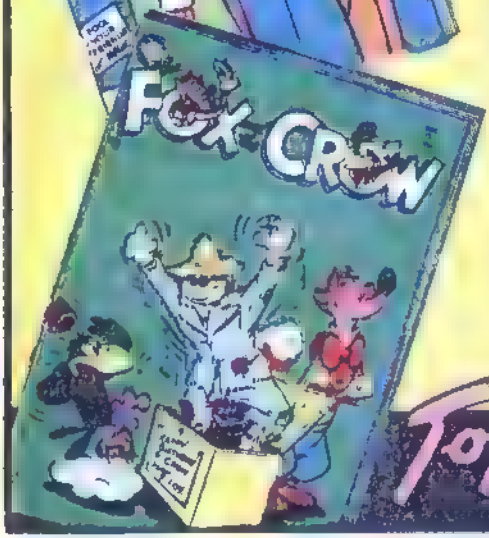




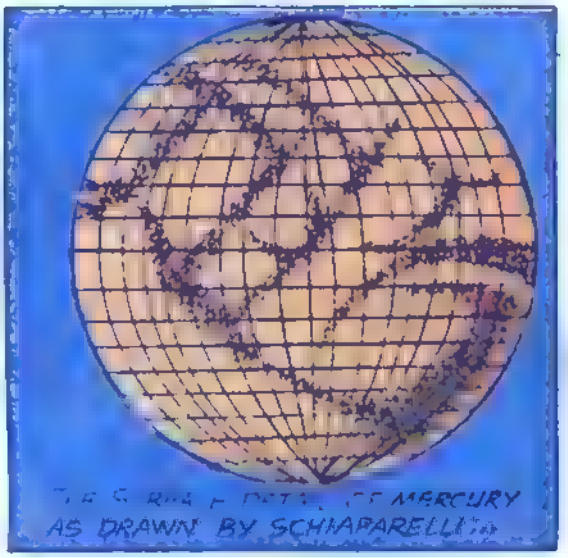


YES, WITH SO MANY DIFFERENT TITLES ON THE NEWSSTANDS--SOME GOOD, SOME BAD, SOME AVERAGE, IT'S HARD TO CHOOSE A MAGAZINE YOU'RE *SURE* TO LIKE, BUT PEOPLE WHO KNOW COMICS BEST, *KNOW* THAT THE SUPERMAN D-C SYMBOL *ALWAYS* MEANS A *GOOD* MAGAZINE!

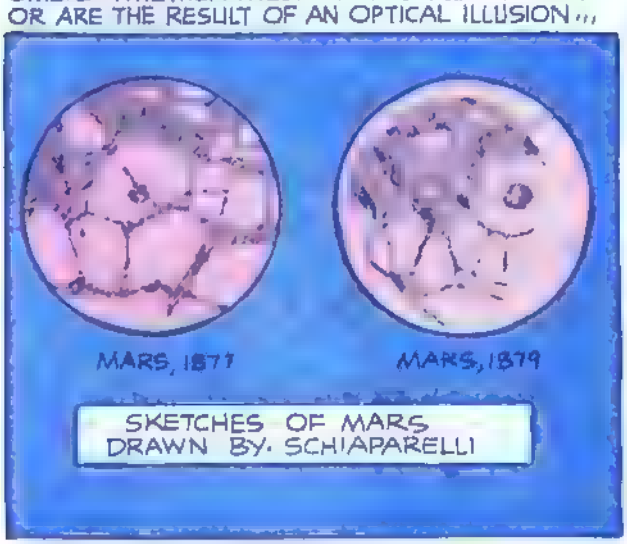
TOP VALUE IN THE TOP MAGAZINES!

GIANTS OF THE TELESCOPE

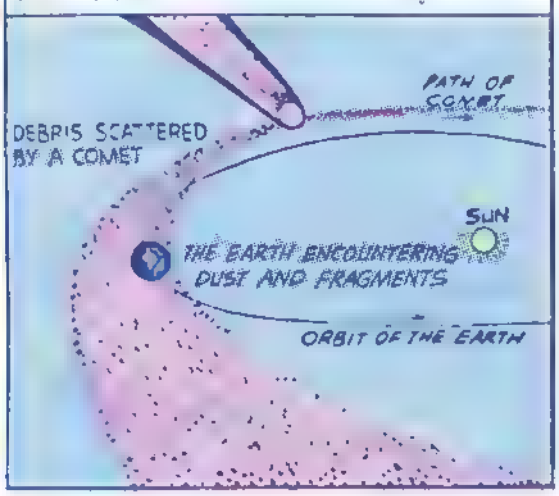
NOTHING DEFINITE WAS KNOWN ABOUT THE ROTATION PERIOD OF ***MERCURY*** UNTIL SCHIAPARELLI, OBSERVING THE PLANET IN ***DAYLIGHT*** TO REDUCE ATMOSPHERIC DISTURBANCES, DISCOVERED DARK PERMANENT MARKINGS ON ***MERCURY***--WHICH LED HIM TO CORRECTLY DEDUCE THAT THE PLANET ROTATED ON ITS AXIS IN THE SAME TIME THAT IT REVOLVED AROUND THE SUN--THUS THE SAME FACE OF ***MERCURY*** IS ALWAYS POINTED TOWARD THE SUN...



IN 1877, SCHIAPARELLI BEGAN AN INTENSIVE STUDY OF THE PLANET ***MARS*** WHICH LASTED MORE THAN 13 YEARS. IN THE VERY FIRST YEAR HE FOUND THAT THE BRIGHTER AREAS OF ***MARS*** WERE CROSSED BY DARK LINEAR MARKINGS WHICH HE CALLED "***CANALI,***" THE ITALIAN WORD FOR CHANNELS. UNFORTUNATELY, THE WORD WAS TRANSLATED AS "***CANALS,***" A MISTAKE WHICH STARTED A TREMENDOUS CONTROVERSY AMONG ASTRONOMERS WHETHER THESE CANALS REALLY EXIST OR ARE THE RESULT OF AN OPTICAL ILLUSION...

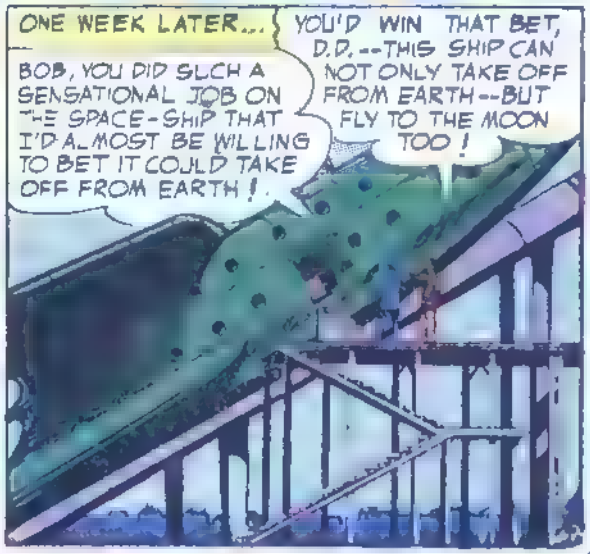


THIS KEEN-SIGHTED SKY-SCANNER WAS THE FIRST TO SHOW THE CONNECTION BETWEEN METEOR STREAMS AND COMETS (*IN HIS FAMOUS LINKING OF THE* ***PERSEID*** *METEOR SHOWER TO* ***TUTTLE'S COMET***)--WHICH POINTED THE WAY TO THE CURRENT ACCEPTED THEORY THAT METEORS ARE FRAGMENTS AND DEBRIS OF COMETS...

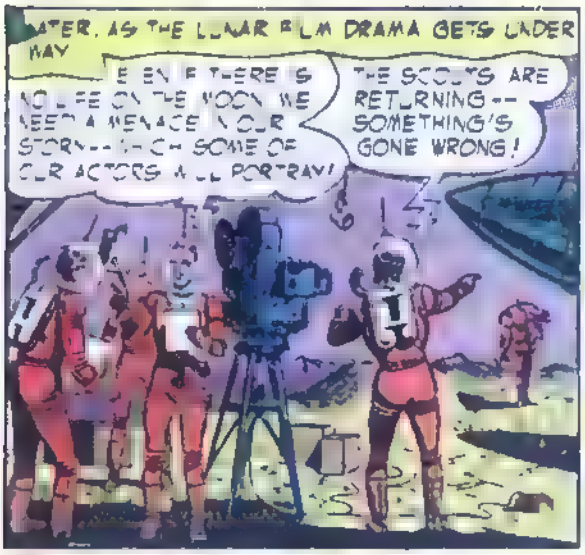


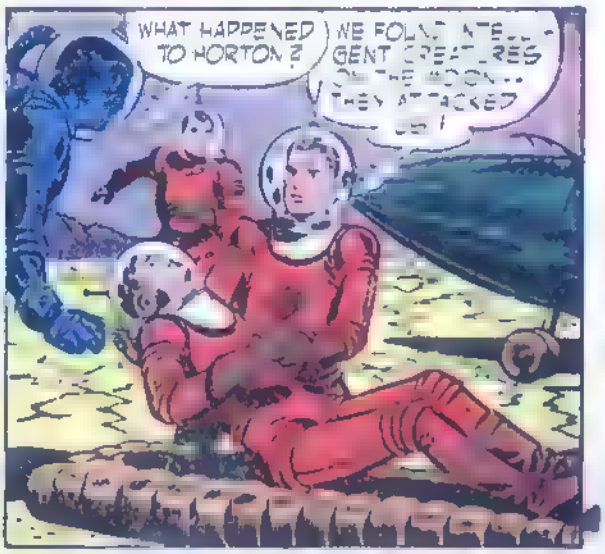
STONE-MEN of LUNA!
I CAN LEAP SIX TIMES AS HIGH ON THE MOON AS I CAN ON EARTH! IT MAKES IT EASY FOR ME TO BOMBARD THE MOON MEN FROM ABOVE!
WHENEVER A HOLLYWOOD PRODUCER WANTS TO USE AUTHENTIC BACKGROUND SCENES FOR A MOVIE, HE CAN TAKE HIS ENTIRE COMPANY ON LOCATION--EXCEPT, OF COURSE, IF THE ACTION SHOULD TAKE PLACE ON ANOTHER WORLD! BUT WHEN MOVIE MOGUL, D.D. DILLOWAY, ORDERED REALISTIC SHOTS OF THE MOON FOR HIS FORTHCOMING FILM, THE TECHNICAL CREW HAD TO FIND A WAY TO MEET HIS DEMANDS!

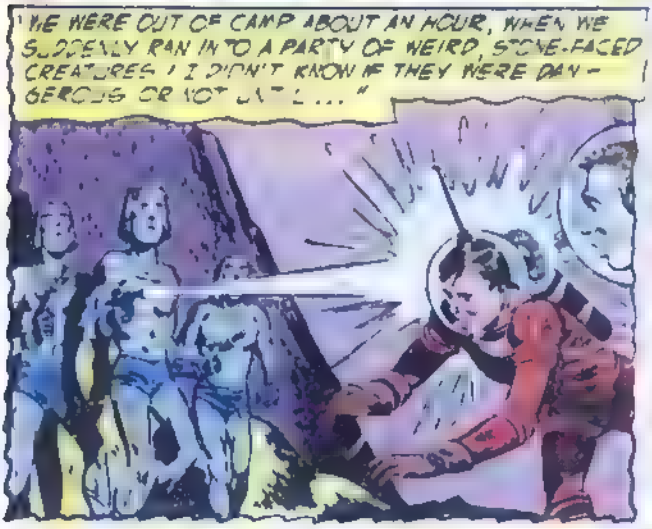
ON THE SUPRA PICTURES LOT, PRODUCER D.D. DILLOWAY TALKS OVER HIS FORTHCOMING PICTURE WITH TECHNICAL ADVISER, BOB MARTIN...
WE'LL BE READY TO SHOOT OUR MOON PICTURE IN A WEEK, BOB! I WANT YOU TO BUILD A SPACE-SHIP THAT LOOKS REAL ENOUGH TO FLY!
LEAVE IT TO ME, CHIEF!

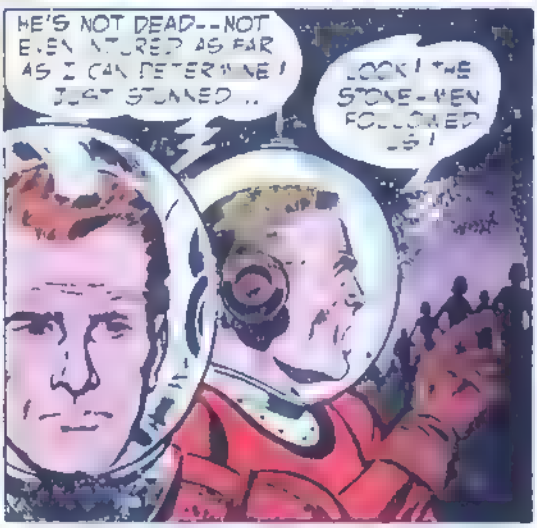

ONE WEEK LATER...
BOB, YOU DID SUCH A SENSATIONAL JOB ON THE SPACE-SHIP THAT I'D ALMOST BE WILLING TO BET IT COULD TAKE OFF FROM EARTH!
YOU'D WIN THAT BET, D.D.--THIS SHIP CAN NOT ONLY TAKE OFF FROM EARTH--BUT FLY TO THE MOON TOO!

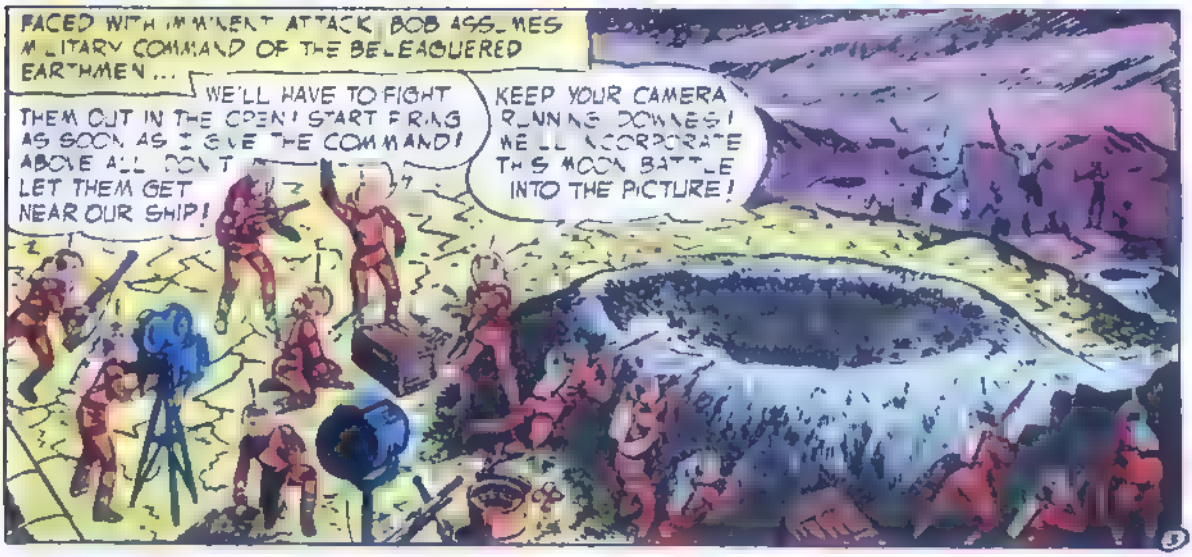
WHEN YOU ORDERED ME TO BUILD A REAL SPACE ROCKET I READ UP ON ALL THE AVAILABLE RESEARCH--AND WORKED OUT A SPACE-DRIVE THAT COULD PROPEL A SHIP INTO SPACE!
WELL WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR? AS LONG AS WE'RE MAKING A MOVIE ABOUT THE MOON, LET'S GO THERE AND MAKE IT REALISTIC!
THE FOLLOWING NIGHT..
THE FILM EQUIPMENT ARMS, AMMUNITION AND CREW ARE ALL ABOARD NOW D.D.!
ALL PREPARATIONS FOR OUR TRIP HAVE BEEN MADE IN SECRET, RIGHT? I DON'T WANT TO BE SCOOPED ON THIS!
A FEW MINUTES LATER, SUPRA STUDIOS IS LOCATION-BOUND. TO THE MOON!...
AFTER THE INITIAL EXCITEMENT OF THE FLIGHT INTO OUTER SPACE HAS WORN OFF THE MOVIE CREW BEGINS PREPARATIONS FOR THEIR STAY ON THE ALIEN SATELLITE...
THESE SPACE-SUITS ARE BULKY I HOPE WE'LL BE ABLE TO MOVE AROUND ON THE MOON..
THE MOON'S GRAVITY IS ONLY ONE SIXTH OF EARTH'S! WE'LL BE AS LIGHT AS FEATHERS!
240,000 MILES LATER THE SPACE-SHIP GLIDES TO A SAFE LANDING ON THE CRATER-MARKED SURFACE OF THE MOON...
YOU TWO SCOUT THE SURROUNDING AREA--AND MAKE SURE WE DON'T RUN INTO ANY UNFORESEEN TROUBLE!
THERE'S PROBABLY NO LIFE ON THE MOON--BUT JUST IN CASE, TAKE THESE RIFLES WITH YOU!
LOOK AT THE GIANT STRIDES THEY'RE TAKING!
WE'LL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE MOON'S LIGHTER GRAVITY TO WORK SOME GOOD TRICK SHOTS INTO THE PICTURE!


LATER, AS THE LUNAR FILM DRAMA GETS UNDER WAY
EVEN IF THERE IS NO LIFE ON THE MOON WE NEED A MENACE FOR OUR STORY -- WHICH SOME OF OUR ACTORS WILL PORTRAY!
THE SCOUTS ARE RETURNING -- SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG!


WHAT HAPPENED TO HORTON?
WE FOUND INTELLIGENT CREATURES ON THE MOON -- THEY ATTACKED US!

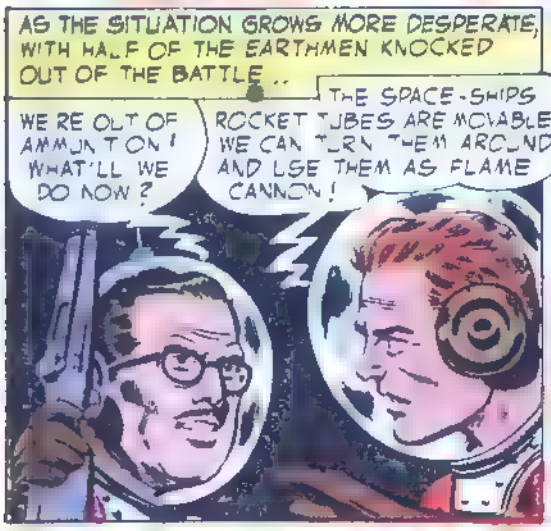

"WE WERE OUT OF CAMP ABOUT AN HOUR, WHEN WE SUDDENLY RAN INTO A PARTY OF WEIRD, STONE-FACED CREATURES! I DIDN'T KNOW IF THEY WERE DANGEROUS OR NOT UNTIL ..."

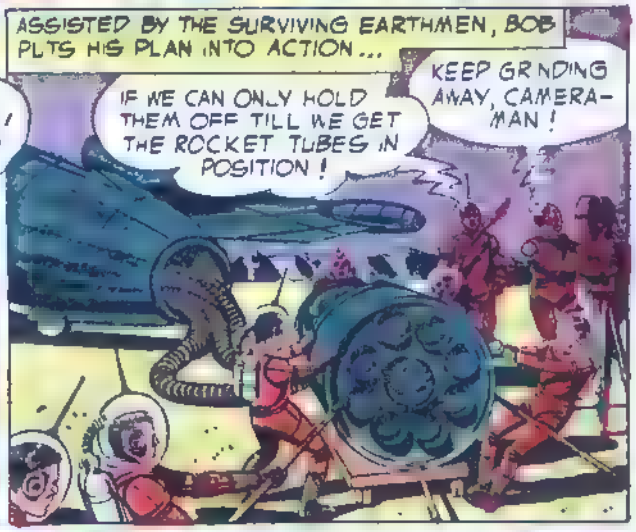

HE'S NOT DEAD -- NOT EVEN INJURED AS FAR AS I CAN DETERMINE! JUST STUNNED ..
LOOK! THE STONE-MEN FOLLOWED US!

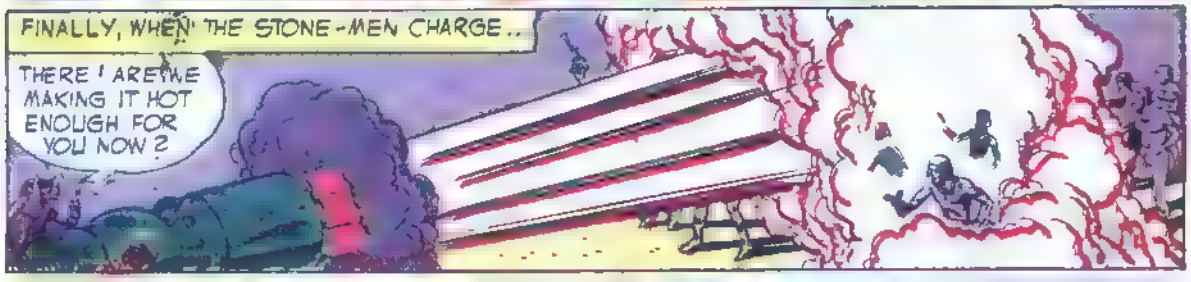

FACED WITH IMMINENT ATTACK, BOB ASSUMES MILITARY COMMAND OF THE BELEAGUERED EARTHMEN ...
WE'LL HAVE TO FIGHT THEM OUT IN THE OPEN! START FIRING AS SOON AS I GIVE THE COMMAND! ABOVE ALL, DON'T LET THEM GET NEAR OUR SHIP!
KEEP YOUR CAMERA RUNNING, DOWNES! WE'LL INCORPORATE THIS MOON BATTLE INTO THE PICTURE!

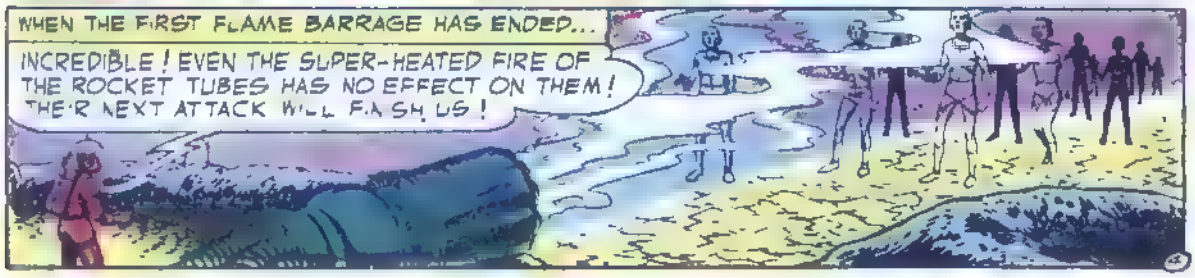
THEN BEGINS AN AMAZING BATTLE OF SILENCE--AS THE EARTHLY SOUND OF ROARING GUNS CANNOT BE HEARD ON THE AIRLESS MOON...
OUR BULLETS ARE BOUNCING OFF THEIR STONE BODIES! WE'LL HAVE TO TRY ANOTHER FORM OF ATTACK!

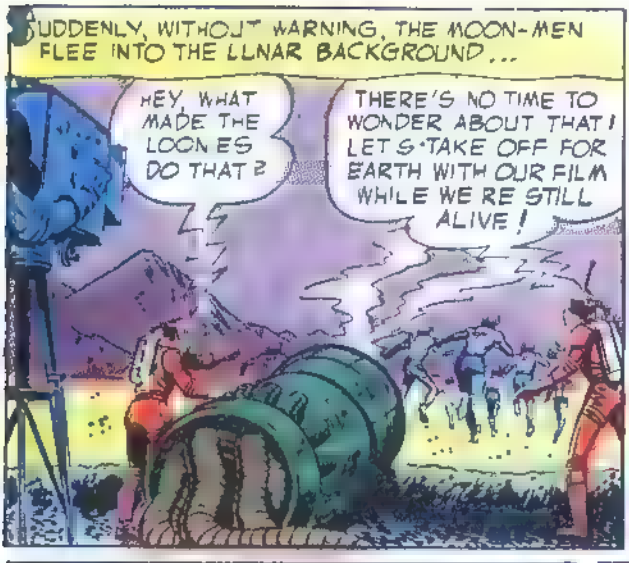
ARMING HIMSELF WITH GRENADES, BOB MAKES A MIGHTY LEAP INTO THE AIR, AND HURLS THE EXPLOSIVE MISSLES DOWNWARD...
THE GRENADES HAVE NO EFFECT ON THEM EITHER. THEY MUST BE MADE OF SUPER-HARD SILICON!

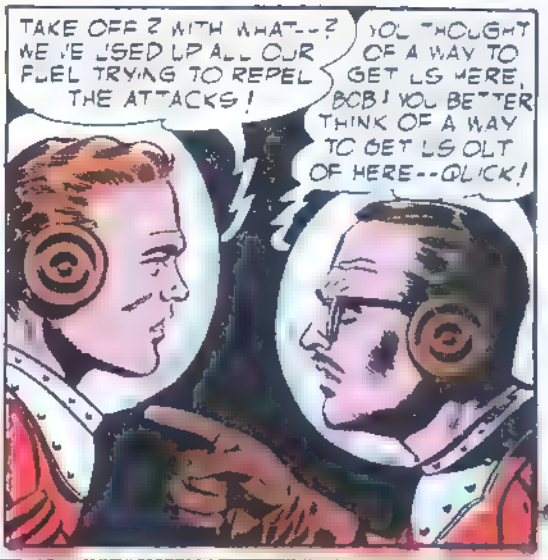

AS THE SITUATION GROWS MORE DESPERATE, WITH HALF OF THE EARTHMEN KNOCKED OUT OF THE BATTLE..
WE'RE OUT OF AMMUNITION! WHAT'LL WE DO NOW?
THE SPACE-SHIPS ROCKET TUBES ARE MOVABLE! WE CAN TURN THEM AROUND AND USE THEM AS FLAME CANNON!

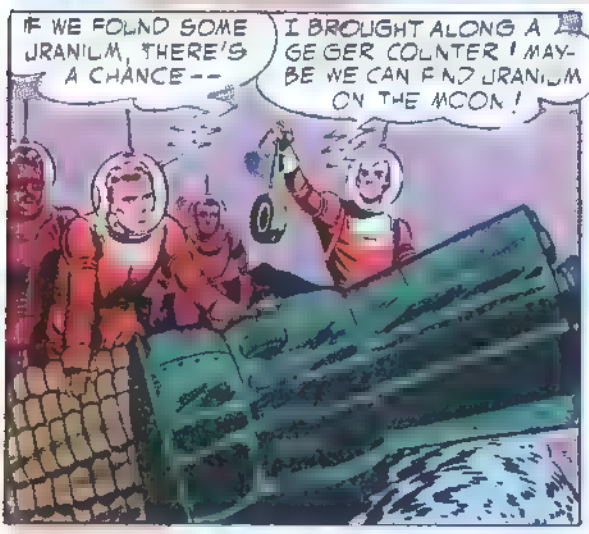

ASSISTED BY THE SURVIVING EARTHMEN, BOB PUTS HIS PLAN INTO ACTION...
IF WE CAN ONLY HOLD THEM OFF TILL WE GET THE ROCKET TUBES IN POSITION!
KEEP GRINDING AWAY, CAMERA-MAN!

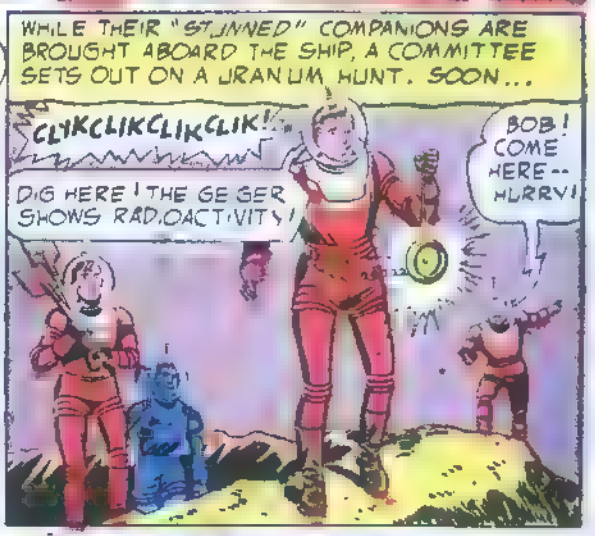

FINALLY, WHEN THE STONE-MEN CHARGE..
THERE! ARE WE MAKING IT HOT ENOUGH FOR YOU NOW?

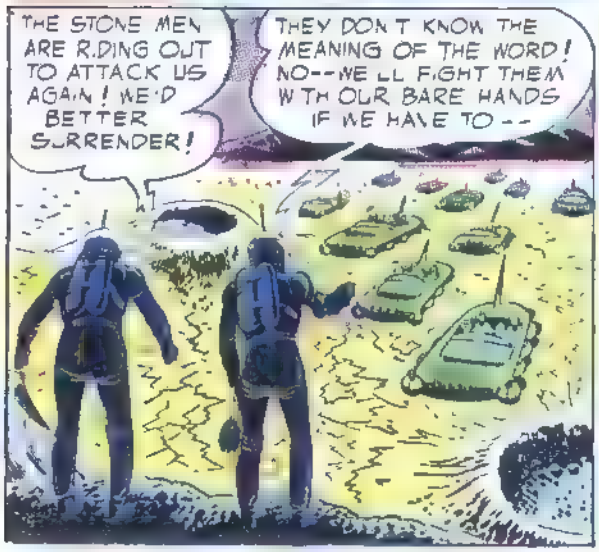

WHEN THE FIRST FLAME BARRAGE HAS ENDED...
INCREDIBLE! EVEN THE SUPER-HEATED FIRE OF THE ROCKET TUBES HAS NO EFFECT ON THEM! THEIR NEXT ATTACK WILL FINISH US!


SUDDENLY, WITHOUT WARNING, THE MOON-MEN FLEE INTO THE LUNAR BACKGROUND...
HEY, WHAT MADE THE LOONIES DO THAT?
THERE'S NO TIME TO WONDER ABOUT THAT! LET'S TAKE OFF FOR EARTH WITH OUR FILM WHILE WE'RE STILL ALIVE!

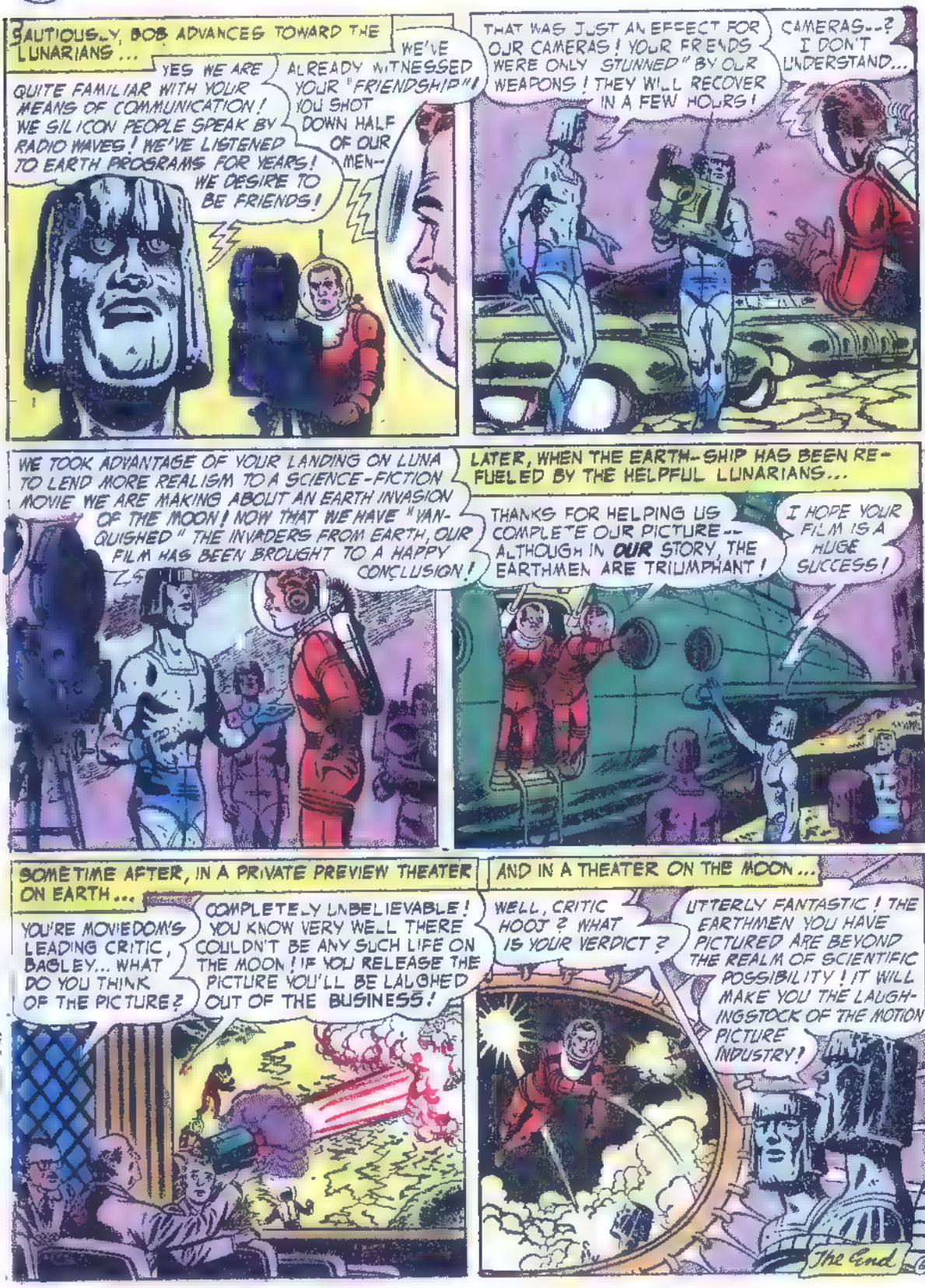

TAKE OFF? WITH WHAT--? WE'VE USED UP ALL OUR FUEL TRYING TO REPEL THE ATTACKS!
YOU THOUGHT OF A WAY TO GET US HERE, BOB! YOU BETTER THINK OF A WAY TO GET US OUT OF HERE--QUICK!


IF WE FOUND SOME URANIUM, THERE'S A CHANCE--
I BROUGHT ALONG A GEIGER COUNTER! MAYBE WE CAN FIND URANIUM ON THE MOON!

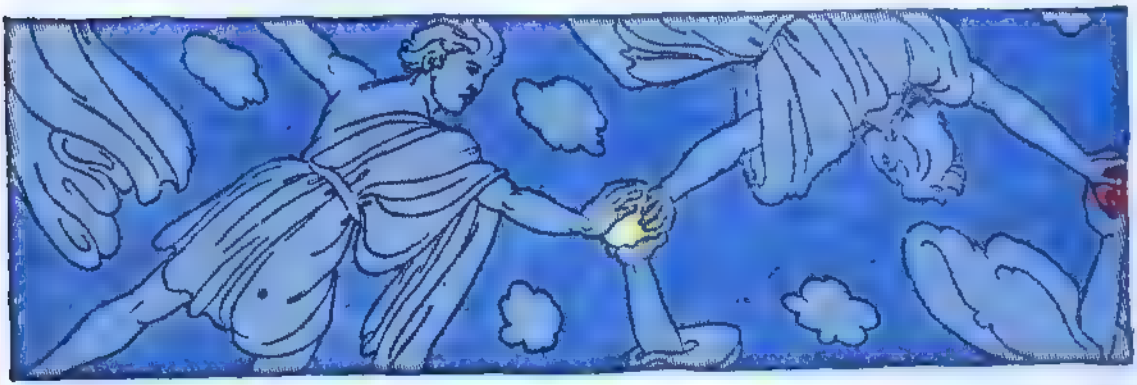

WHILE THEIR "STUNNED" COMPANIONS ARE BROUGHT ABOARD THE SHIP, A COMMITTEE SETS OUT ON A URANIUM HUNT. SOON...
CLIKCLIKCLIKCLIK!
DIG HERE! THE GEIGER SHOWS RADIOACTIVITY!
BOB! COME HERE--HURRY!


THE STONE MEN ARE RIDING OUT TO ATTACK US AGAIN! WE'D BETTER SURRENDER!
THEY DON'T KNOW THE MEANING OF THE WORD! NO--WE'LL FIGHT THEM WITH OUR BARE HANDS IF WE HAVE TO--

GRIMLY, THE DETERMINED BAND OF EARTHMEN AWAITS THE FINAL ONSLAUGHT, WHEN..
PEACE, EARTHMEN! WE MEAN NO HARM--
HE'S SPEAKING OVER MY RADIO--IN ENGLISH!


CAUTIOUSLY, BOB ADVANCES TOWARD THE LUNARIANS ...
YES WE ARE QUITE FAMILIAR WITH YOUR MEANS OF COMMUNICATION! WE SILICON PEOPLE SPEAK BY RADIO WAVES! WE'VE LISTENED TO EARTH PROGRAMS FOR YEARS! WE DESIRE TO BE FRIENDS!
ALREADY WITNESSED YOUR "FRIENDSHIP"! YOU SHOT DOWN HALF OF OUR MEN--
WE'VE
THAT WAS JUST AN EFFECT FOR OUR CAMERAS! YOUR FRIENDS WERE ONLY "STUNNED" BY OUR WEAPONS! THEY WILL RECOVER IN A FEW HOURS!
CAMERAS--? I DON'T UNDERSTAND...
WE TOOK ADVANTAGE OF YOUR LANDING ON LUNA TO LEND MORE REALISM TO A SCIENCE-FICTION MOVIE WE ARE MAKING ABOUT AN EARTH INVASION OF THE MOON! NOW THAT WE HAVE "VANQUISHED" THE INVADERS FROM EARTH, OUR FILM HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO A HAPPY CONCLUSION!
LATER, WHEN THE EARTH-SHIP HAS BEEN REFUELED BY THE HELPFUL LUNARIANS...
THANKS FOR HELPING US COMPLETE OUR PICTURE -- ALTHOUGH IN OUR STORY, THE EARTHMEN ARE TRIUMPHANT!
I HOPE YOUR FILM IS A HUGE SUCCESS!
SOMETIME AFTER, IN A PRIVATE PREVIEW THEATER ON EARTH...
YOU'RE MOVIEDOM'S LEADING CRITIC, BAGLEY... WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE PICTURE?
COMPLETELY UNBELIEVABLE! YOU KNOW VERY WELL THERE COULDN'T BE ANY SUCH LIFE ON THE MOON! IF YOU RELEASE THE PICTURE YOU'LL BE LAUGHED OUT OF THE BUSINESS!
AND IN A THEATER ON THE MOON...
WELL, CRITIC HOOT? WHAT IS YOUR VERDICT?
UTTERLY FANTASTIC! THE EARTHMEN YOU HAVE PICTURED ARE BEYOND THE REALM OF SCIENTIFIC POSSIBILITY! IT WILL MAKE YOU THE LAUGHINGSTOCK OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY!
The End
6

WONDERS of SPACE



FOURTH-DIMENSIONAL SPACE TRAVEL!

ACCORDING to one of the theories of relativity, when an object moves closer and closer to the speed of light—186,000 miles a second—the speed at which it is traveling *slows down*. It is conceivable that some day earthmen will devise a spaceship that can travel close to the speed of light. As a matter of fact, if we ever hope to travel beyond the solar system to the stars it is essential that we attain these almost-as-fast-as-light speeds, for the stars are many, many light years distant from the earth.

Granted that the space-traveler's time sense will be slowed down, how will it affect him personally on his journey to a distant star? It has been calculated that a ship traveling 99% the speed of light could make the round trip to the star Procyon (10.4 light years distant from earth) in 21 years. But that is the passage of time recorded by earthmen who have remained behind on our planet. The spaceship's crew would be conscious of the fact that they had been traveling for only three years! Increase this speed even closer to the speed of light and the space-voyagers would apparently reach Procyon in even less time as far as they were concerned.

It is obvious then that when the space-men returned to earth, the familiar faces they had left behind will have long passed away—and it is probable that their native land will have undergone such startling changes as to be unrecognizable.

Since relativity further denies the possibility of anyone or anything being able to travel *faster* than light, we are faced with the problem of how the extremely distant stars may be visited. Some very imaginative scientists have proposed a daring solution that involves interstellar flight via the fourth dimension.

A simple method of visualizing this novel method of space-travel is to imagine people living in a two-dimensional world. Their universe is a surface like that of a sheet of paper. Everything that does not lie exactly on this surface has no existence for them. They can form no conception of three-dimensional objects, or of space that lies off the thin plane of their world. If the paper they live on were bent in a near circle, they could not cut across from one edge to the other. They could conceive of no possible route except the long way around the circle of paper.

We are three-dimensional beings and live in a three-dimensional world. Carrying over the analogy of the circle in the two-dimensional world to our own world, it is entirely conceivable that we may be able to figure out a way to bend space in a circle. In such a circumstance, the most distant stars, which can barely be seen by our greatest telescopes, would be just around the corner in four-dimensional space.

Thus, advise our interstellar astronauts, we must someday build a vehicle that can navigate through the fourth dimension. On takeoff, it will vanish from sight, apparently even from

existence, and emerge almost immediately on a far-distant star billions of light years away. Incredible as all this sounds today, when we have yet to travel to our nearest space neighbor, the moon, what man can think of, he can someday accomplish!

TWO-FACED PLANET!

Though one of the planets of our solar system shines with the brilliance of some of our brightest stars, it has been seen by comparatively few people on earth. This curious planet is Mercury, which stays so close to the sun in our sky that in only three time periods every year may it be seen during the day and a like number of times it is possible to be seen during the evening.

Because of these visual difficulties our knowledge of Mercury is quite limited. Even such fundamental data as its mass and diameter are in doubt; the period of the planet's rotation has not been definitely established; the position of its polar axis is unknown; and our information about its surface features and conditions amounts to slightly more than guesswork. The one fact of this innermost planet of the solar system that is accurately known is its movement in its orbit, for it is fast and easy to follow.

Mercury's orbit is one of the most eccentric of all the planets. Although the planet's mean distance from the sun is 35,960,000 miles, it may vary 7,450,000 miles either way. Its closest distance from earth is about 50,000,000 miles, yet it drifts as far away from us as 136,000,000 miles.

The diameter is uncertain by about 200 miles. The generally accepted figure is 3100 miles, which makes this planet smaller than some of the moons of the giant planets.

Speaking of moons, or rather of earth's moon, Mercury keeps one face toward the sun, similarly as Luna does to earth. Century after century the sun shines continually on one side of Mercury, radiating six times as much heat and light on the planet as it does on earth. Astronomers picture the sun-facing portion of Mercury as a desert with lakes of molten lead and tin, and the opposite side a world of eternal night with gases of atmosphere frozen out into glaciers.

EARTH-CRASHING STARS!

Whenever an automobile driver travels along a road cars may pass him in any direction along the points of the compass. As long as he is alert, he can see to it that the danger of colliding with another car is quite small.

Similarly as our earth travels through space, it may encounter objects passing in any number of directions—meteors to a great extent, comets and stars to a lesser extent. Though the odds have been esimated to be four or five million against colliding with another star, the danger of passing *close* to a star is ever present and leads to speculation what would happen if such an event should occur.

Assuming an errant star happened to pass close to our planet (and close, in this sense, involves distances of million of miles away), it would undoubtedly disorganize and destroy our whole solar system by its tremendous gravity pull. Enormous tides would be raised, causing the oceans to sweep round and round the earth in monster tidal waves, drowning and destroying everything in their path.

The planets would be thrown out of their orbits and axial rotations; some, perhaps the earth included, might be sucked headlong into either the sun or the passing star, there to be swallowed up in a fiery doom.

To speak only of a star approaching us is just one way of looking at this grim picture. The earth is just as apt to run into a star as the star is to run into us, for the solar system to which the earth belongs is traveling through space at 700 times the speed of a crack streamline express train.

At six o'clock every night we are 500,000 miles farther away from where we were twelve hours earlier. What we may encounter at any moment along this "treacherous" journey is beyond our capacity to determine. But as long as it has failed to happen in the three billion years of earth's existence, we can feel fairly confident that it will very likely not happen for another three billion years.

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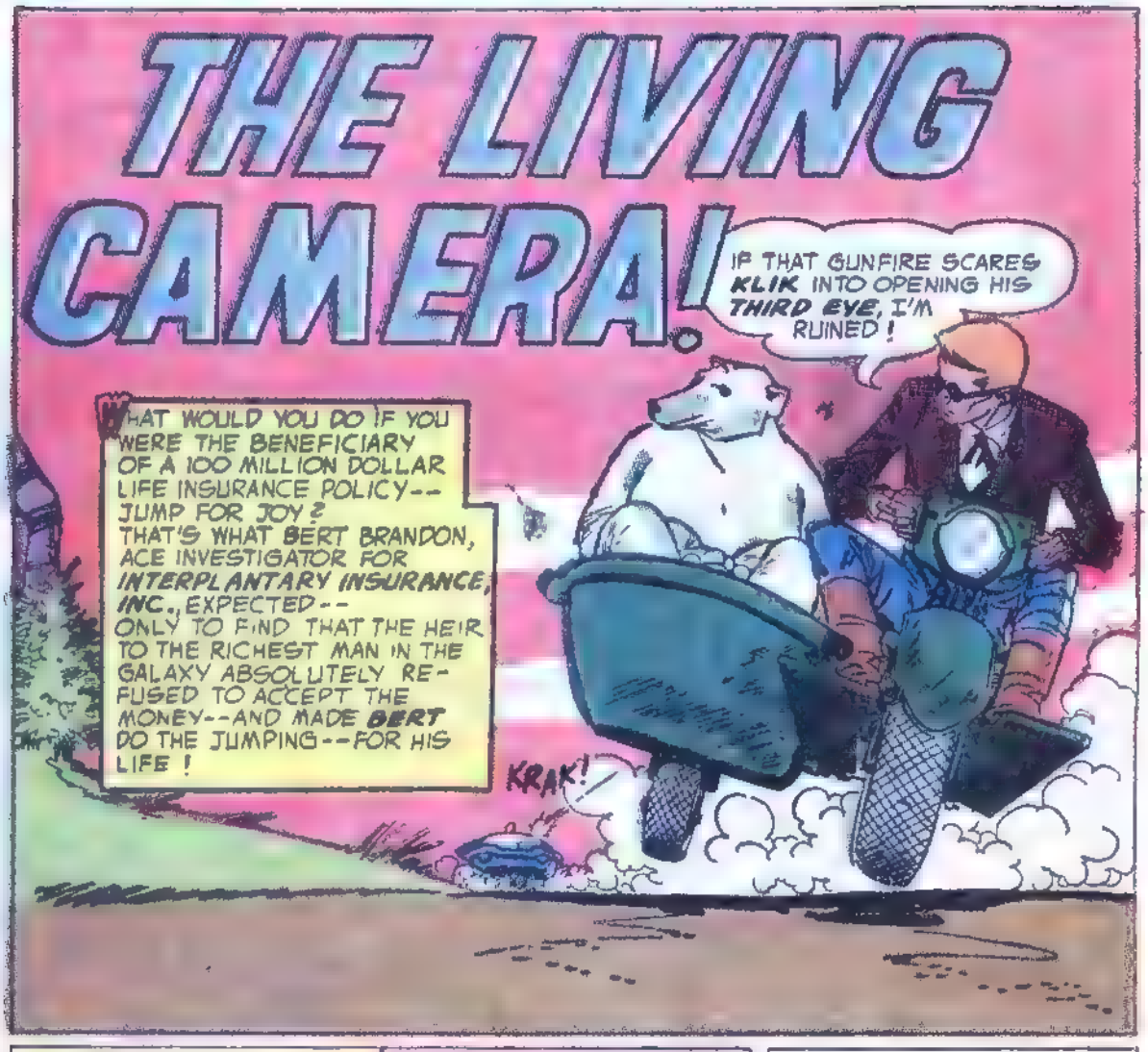
THE LIVING CAMERA!


IF THAT GUNFIRE SCARES KLIK INTO OPENING HIS THIRD EYE, I'M RUINED!
WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU WERE THE BENEFICIARY OF A 100 MILLION DOLLAR LIFE INSURANCE POLICY--JUMP FOR JOY? THAT'S WHAT BERT BRANDON, ACE INVESTIGATOR FOR INTERPLANTARY INSURANCE, INC., EXPECTED--ONLY TO FIND THAT THE HEIR TO THE RICHEST MAN IN THE GALAXY ABSOLUTELY REFUSED TO ACCEPT THE MONEY--AND MADE BERT DO THE JUMPING--FOR HIS LIFE!
KRAK!

SPACEGRAM

WM. J. EMORY, INTERPLANETARY INSURANCE, INC., CAPITOL CITY, EARTH.

DEAR BOSS:

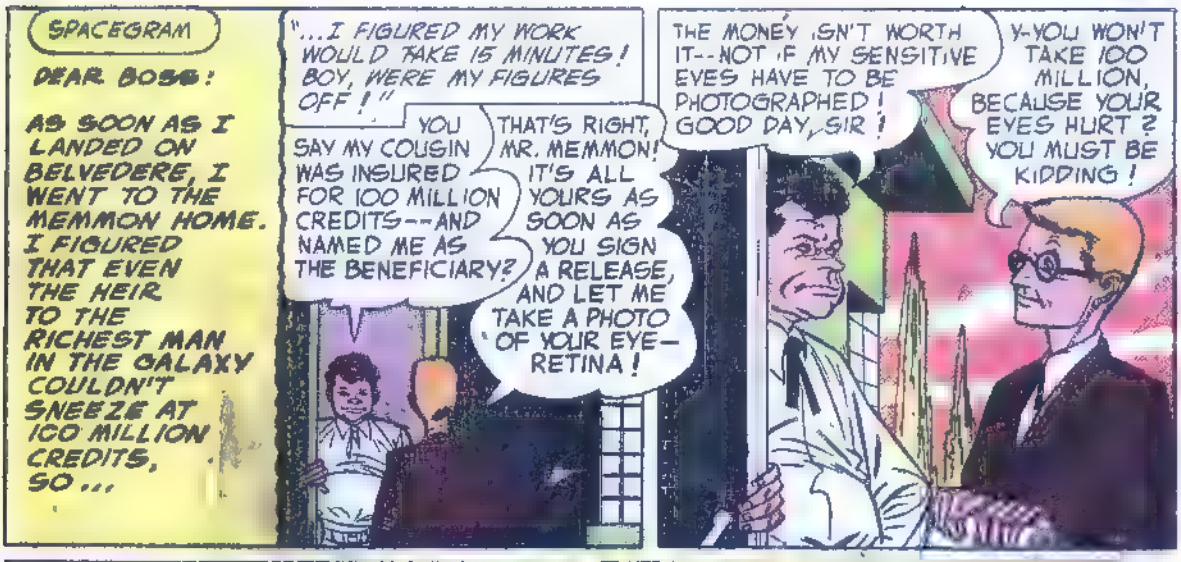
WHEN YOU NOTIFIED ME THAT M.M. MEMMON, RICHEST MAN IN THE GALAXY AND OWNER OF THE PLANET BELVEDERE HAD DIED IN A SPACESHIP ASTEROID COLLISION, I FIGURED THAT HANDING HIS LUCKY BENEFICIARY 100 MILLION CREDITS WAS GOING TO BE A CINCH!

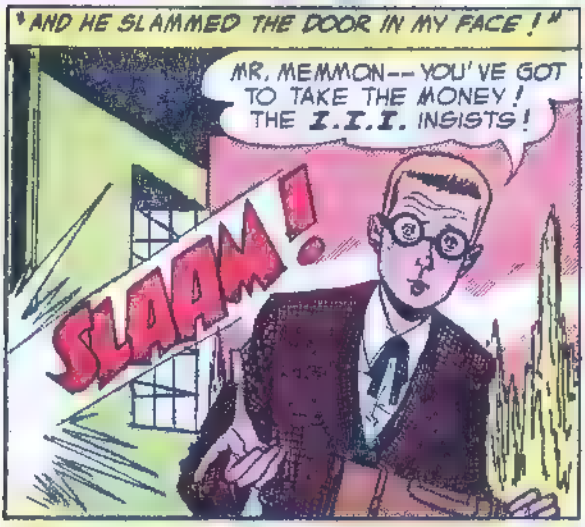
"--UNTIL YOU BEGAN TO MAKE THINGS COMPLICATED, AS USUAL!"

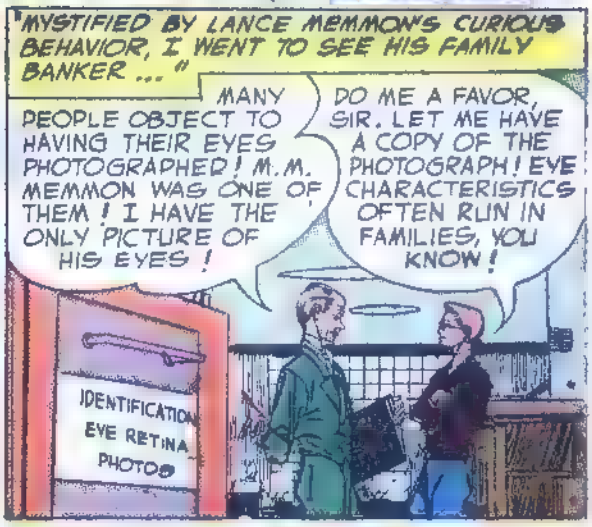
100 MILLION CREDITS--FOR ME? OH, THANK YOU, W.J.!

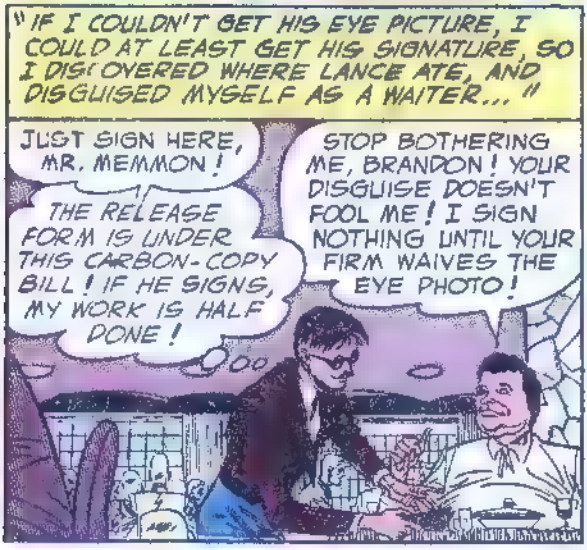
STOP CLOWNING, BERT! THAT'S FOR M.M. MEMMON'S COUSIN, LANCE MEMMON! HE'S THE BENEFICIARY OF THE POLICY!

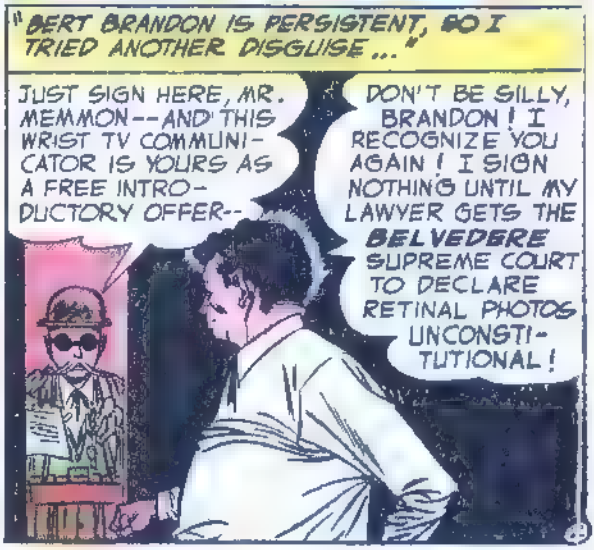
HE'S ON THE PLANET BELVEDERE! MAKE SURE YOU GET HIS SIGNATURE AND EYE-RETINA IDENTIFICATION PHOTO BEFORE YOU HAND OVER THE CHECK! WE NEED THEM TO PROVE WE'VE PAID THE RIGHT MAN!


SPACEGRAM
DEAR BOSS:
AS SOON AS I LANDED ON BELVEDERE, I WENT TO THE MEMMON HOME. I FIGURED THAT EVEN THE HEIR TO THE RICHEST MAN IN THE GALAXY COULDN'T SNEEZE AT 100 MILLION CREDITS, SO...
"...I FIGURED MY WORK WOULD TAKE 15 MINUTES! BOY, WERE MY FIGURES OFF!"
YOU SAY MY COUSIN WAS INSURED FOR 100 MILLION CREDITS--AND NAMED ME AS THE BENEFICIARY?
THAT'S RIGHT, MR. MEMMON! IT'S ALL YOURS AS SOON AS YOU SIGN A RELEASE, AND LET ME TAKE A PHOTO OF YOUR EYE--RETINA!
THE MONEY ISN'T WORTH IT--NOT IF MY SENSITIVE EYES HAVE TO BE PHOTOGRAPHED! GOOD DAY, SIR!
Y-YOU WON'T TAKE 100 MILLION, BECAUSE YOUR EYES HURT? YOU MUST BE KIDDING!


"AND HE SLAMMED THE DOOR IN MY FACE!"
MR. MEMMON--YOU'VE GOT TO TAKE THE MONEY! THE I.I.I. INSISTS!
SLAAM!


"MYSTIFIED BY LANCE MEMMON'S CURIOUS BEHAVIOR, I WENT TO SEE HIS FAMILY BANKER..."
MANY PEOPLE OBJECT TO HAVING THEIR EYES PHOTOGRAPHED! M.M. MEMMON WAS ONE OF THEM! I HAVE THE ONLY PICTURE OF HIS EYES!
DO ME A FAVOR, SIR. LET ME HAVE A COPY OF THE PHOTOGRAPH! EYE CHARACTERISTICS OFTEN RUN IN FAMILIES, YOU KNOW!
IDENTIFICATION EYE RETINA PHOTOS


"IF I COULDN'T GET HIS EYE PICTURE, I COULD AT LEAST GET HIS SIGNATURE, SO I DISCOVERED WHERE LANCE ATE, AND DISGUISED MYSELF AS A WAITER..."
JUST SIGN HERE, MR. MEMMON!
THE RELEASE FORM IS UNDER THIS CARBON-COPY BILL! IF HE SIGNS, MY WORK IS HALF DONE!
STOP BOTHERING ME, BRANDON! YOUR DISGUISE DOESN'T FOOL ME! I SIGN NOTHING UNTIL YOUR FIRM WAIVES THE EYE PHOTO!


"BERT BRANDON IS PERSISTENT, SO I TRIED ANOTHER DISGUISE..."
JUST SIGN HERE, MR. MEMMON--AND THIS WRIST TV COMMUNICATOR IS YOURS AS A FREE INTRODUCTORY OFFER--
DON'T BE SILLY, BRANDON! I RECOGNIZE YOU AGAIN! I SIGN NOTHING UNTIL MY LAWYER GETS THE BELVEDERE SUPREME COURT TO DECLARE RETINAL PHOTOS UNCONSTITUTIONAL!

SPACEGRAM

DEAR BOSS:

SINCE LANCE MEMMON WAS SO SET AGAINST HAVING HIS EYE-RETINA SNAPPED, I FIGURED I'D HAVE TO TRY TO GET THE PICTURE ON THE SLY! FIRST I HAD TO GET A CAMERA, SO I HUNTED FOR A PHOTOGRAPHY SHOP...

"...UNTIL I DISCOVERED THERE WAS NONE ON BELVEDERE!"

BUT I'VE GOT TO TAKE SOME PICTURES -- AND THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE A CAMERA ON THIS WHOLE PLANET!

WE DON'T NEED CAMERAS-- NOT AS LONG AS WE HAVE POLAROID BEARS!.. GET OFF THAT ICE, KLIK, AND COME HERE!

BELVEDERE SUPER MARKET IF YOU DON'T SEE IT, ASK FOR IT!

"THE BEAR AMBLED OVER. IT WAS THEN I NOTICED HIS THIRD EYE--"

THE BELVEDERE POLAROID BEARS HAVE THREE EYES--THE THIRD BEING A LIVING CAMERA! ANY PICTURE IT SEES CAN BE TRANSFERRED TO A PHOTOGRAPHIC PLATE, JUST BY PLACING IT AGAINST THE EYE!

"I MADE A DEAL TO HIRE KLIK FOR A FEW DAYS.."

JUST TELL KLIK WHAT YOU WANT SNAPPED. AFTER THAT MAKE SURE HE KEEPS HIS CAMERA EYE CLOSED! IF LIGHT HITS IT THE PHOTOGRAPH WILL DISAPPEAR!

COME ON, KLIK! WE'VE GOT WORK TO DO!

"I KNEW LANCE'S REPUTATION AS A FAST DRIVER, SO I DRESSED UP AS A SPEED COP AND--"

HERE HE COMES, KLIK! SNAP HIS PICTURE WHEN I GIVE YOU THE SIGNAL!

ZOOOM!

"I GAVE MY JETCYCLE THE GUN AND SOON.."

PULL OVER, MISTER! YOU'RE DOING 150-- WHERE'S THE FIRE?

INSIDE THIS FLAME PISTOL, BRANDON! GET OUT OF MY WAY, BEFORE YOU MAKE ME BURN!

HE'S TOO CLEVER FOR US, KLIK!--STOP TAKING PICTURES OF ME!

CLICK!

SPACEGRAM

DEAR BOSS!

THE REASON I MADE THAT EXPENSIVE PERSON-TO-PERSON CALL TO YOU VIA INTERPLANETARY VISIPHONE WAS TO REPORT ON WHAT I WAS UP AGAINST AND TO ASK YOU TO RELIEVE ME OF THE ASSIGNMENT...

BUT I TRIED, W.J.! I'M GETTING NOWHERE!

GET THAT PHOTO, THE SIGNATURE, AND DELIVER THE MONEY! THE I.I.I. LIVES UP TO ITS OBLIGATIONS! WHAT'S SO HARD ABOUT GIVING A MAN 100 MILLION CREDITS?

"SO BACK I WENT--TO FIND THAT MEMMON NOW HAD TWO BODYGUARDS! I LEARNED THIS THE HARD WAY!"

OOOFF!

--AND STAY OUT!

"I TRIED SNEAKING UP ON HIM FROM ABOVE, BUT..."

IT'S NO USE, KLIK--LET'S GET OUT OF HERE! LANCE STARTED BY BLOWING HIS TOP--AND NOW HE'S TRYING TO BLOW OURS!

BLAM!

"I WAITED UNTIL THE BODYGUARDS LEFT THE HOUSE, AND THEN..."

I'M SURE LANCE IS INSIDE, BUT HE REFUSES TO ANSWER! I'D BETTER TAKE A LOOK THROUGH THE KEYHOLE!

RRRINGG!

"...AS I DID A 'PEEPING TOM' THROUGH THE KEYHOLE, I SAW, STARING BACK AT ME...!"

IT'S LANCE--LOOKING AT US! QUICK, KLIK--GET A PICTURE OF HIS EYE!

"I WAS SUCCESSFUL AT LAST! AS KLIK AND I TURNED TO FLEE..."

RUN, KLIK! KEEP YOUR CAMERA EYE CLOSED! WE CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE THAT PICTURE!

COME BACK, BLAST YOU!

KRAK!

ZIP!

SPACEGRAM

DEAR BOSS:

I FINALLY HAD LANCE'S RETINAL PHOTO -- BUT I DIDN'T COUNT ON THE FEROCITY OF LANCE'S REACTION! HE PURSUED US AS...

".. I DROVE BY JETCYCLE TOWARD THE SPACEPORT AND THE I.I.I. SPACE YACHT!"

TO AIRPORT

"ONCE ABOARD MY SHIP, I THOUGHT WE WERE SAFE, BUT..."

LANCE AND HIS BODYGUARDS ARE TAKING OFF AFTER US! WE'VE GOT TO TRY TO LOSE THEM IN SPACE!

"NO MATTER HOW I TWISTED AND TURNED, LANCE'S FASTER SHIP DREW NEARER, UNTIL --"

OPEN UP, BRANDON -- OR WE'LL BURN OUR WAY IN!

"WHAT COULD I DO? MY POSITION WAS HOPELESS..."

DON'T HARM THAT POLAROID BEAR! HE WAS ONLY FOLLOWING ORDERS!

ONCE THE LIGHT HITS HIS CAMERA EYE, WHATEVER PICTURE IT HOLDS WILL DISAPPEAR!

THAT'S THAT!...THE PHOTO IS DESTROYED, AND YOU'RE COMING WITH US, BRANDON! I'M PREFERRING CRIMINAL CHARGES AGAINST YOU!

POP!

"BACK ON BELVEDERE, HE MARCHED KLIK AND ME INTO A POLICE STATION..."

OFFICER, I'M CHARGING THIS MAN WITH ASSAULT, BATTERY, EXTORTION, MALFEASANCE, FRAUD, AND INVASION OF PRIVACY! LOCK HIM UP!

YEGGIR! BY THE WAY, DID YOU HEAR THE NEWS THAT THE BELVEDERE SUPREME COURT HAS RULED EYE-RETINA PHOTOS INVALID?

SPACEGRAM

DEAR BOSS:

IT LOOKED AS I WERE AT MY WITS' END--ALMOST! APPARENTLY, THERE WAS ONLY ONE THING LEFT FOR ME TO DO...

"--DISCHARGE MY ASSIGNMENT BY HANDING OVER THE MONEY TO LANCE MEMMON!"

I'M SIGNING A RELEASE FORM, BRANDON! GIVE ME THAT CHECK!

YOU WIN, LANCE! HERE'S THE MONEY...

"--AND THEN I SPRANG MY TRAP!"

100 MILLION CREDITS--THANKS, BRANDON! THIS WILL COME IN HANDY!

ARREST HIM, SERGEANT! I'M PREFERRING CHARGES AGAINST HIM FOR CONSPIRACY WITH INTENT TO DEFRAUD MY COMPANY!

"WITH A LIGHTNING-LIKE MOVE, I RIPPED AWAY MEMMON'S WIG..."

N-WHY... IT-IT'S MR. MEMMON! M.M. MEMMON, I MEAN!

YES--DISGUISED AS HIS OWN "COUSIN" LANCE! WHILE HE CHASED ME, I TRANSFERRED KLIK'S PHOTO TO THIS NEGATIVE! BY COMPARING IT WITH THE BANK'S PHOTO, I DISCOVERED IT WAS M.M. HIMSELF!

MEMMON IS LAND-WEALTHY, BUT CASH-POOR! HE PRETENDED HE'D BEEN KILLED IN THE CRASH OF HIS SPACE YACHT, AND DISGUISED HIMSELF! THEN HE TRIED TO COLLECT HIS OWN LIFE INSURANCE POLICY!

SO THAT'S WHY HE DIDN'T WANT HIS EYE-RETINA PHOTOGRAPHED! IT'S AN INFALLIBLE IDENTIFICATION!

RIGHT! HE HAD TO DESTROY THE RETINA PICTURE AT ALL COSTS! EXCEPT--I HAD SAVED ALL OF KLIK'S PICTURES!

MMMM... YOU SURE DID! SOME OF THESE PHOTOS ARE VERY INTERESTING... VERY INTERESTING!

SPACEGRAM

DEAR BOSS:

I SAVED THE I.I.I. ITS MONEY--SO NOW YOU'VE GOT TO SAVE ME!
YOU SEE, THE SERGEANT SAW THE PICTURE KLIK TOOK OF ME, DISGUISED AS A SPEED COP--AND NOW I'M IN JAIL, CHARGED WITH IMPERSONATING AN OFFICER!
PLEASE RUSH BAIL TO YOUR HARD-WORKING, LOYAL EMPLOYEE--

BERT BRANDON

The End

HERE IS the GAME OF GAMES

Here is your perfect — realistic — electric baseball game. Your electric switches set the stage for amazing baseball action and big league FUN. Brilliant electric lights gleam from their plastic domes, putting life and excitement into every thrilling play.

Choose one of the 9 pitching switches — plug in for just the right ball to baffle the batter. Your batter sets his directional switch for the field he'll bat to. You station your fielders for each batter. Your batter judges the tricks of every pitcher, matching swings accordingly. Switches are on—there's the pitch light—the crack of the bat. You see the distance the ball traveled—the type of play—whether the ball was caught or pegged to the proper base. You know exactly the movement and action of every play.

A NEW PLUG-IN 110 VOLT MODEL

You can name every player — make up your own All Star Team — or name players after the men on your favorite Big League team. Play a game — give every player the actual characteristics of his every day playing.

Your matching skill and wits when you set your playing switches. Electric impulses sent into the electric mechanism are sorted out and the play recorded in colored lights.

You plan and coach every play yourself. You can make nearly every play in the book come to life. Each close play requiring a decision is quickly settled by the Electric Umpire. The game operates from floor plug or light socket. Plug it in and play if you have ordinary house current. Order today.

HERE IS WHAT YOU GET

- 4 Electric Directional Lights
- 3 Electric Interchanging Distance Lights
- 2 Electric Umpire Lights
- 2 Electric Umpire Light
- 1 Electric Pitcher Light
- 1 Electric Strike Light
- 1 Electric Ball Light
- 9 Electric Pitching Switches
- 4 Electric Directional Switches
- 1 Electric Fielder Fly Ball Switch
- 4 Electric Umpire Switches
- 1 Electric Wait Switch
- 1 Special Electric 110 volt Transformer, enclosed Six feet of Electric cord
- 11 Multicolored plastic Domes Peg scoring for Strikes, Balls and Outs
- 9 Individual Red Players
- 9 Individual Green Players.

GUARANTEED 5 Days Trial

The Electric Game Co., Inc.
705 Lyman St., Holyoke, Mass.

- ☐ Full payment enclosed ☐ $1.00 C.O.D. Deposit
- ☐ Electric Baseball - Transformer operated $10.00
- ☐ Electric Football - Transformer operated $10.00

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____

Big 4-Bat TABLE TENNIS SET

Official size set with 4 Bats, 2 Balls, net, posts and rules of play. All you need for the game of Doubles or Singles.

Nothing to build. Just attach wings, light fuse and away it goes. Flies 500 ft. high. Comes complete with engine and jet fuel

FULL SIZE UKULELE

plus Arthur Godfrey's famous "push button" player. Both given with complete instruction and song booklet.

OVER 70 GREAT PRIZES TO CHOOSE FROM

Those shown here plus Walkie Talkie, Walking Doll, Two-Gun Holster Set, Pocket Watch, Simplex Typewriter, Football, Dresser Set, Daisy Training Rifle, Pearls, Knapsack, Roller Skates, Moccasin Kit, Pup Tent, Rhinestone Necklace, Sports Kit, Electric Jeep, Phonograph Records, Jr. Guitar, Printing Press, Shoulder Strap Bag, Boomerangs, Bird Clock, Umbrella, Camp "Cookit" Kit, Electric Games, many more.

Send Coupon for Free Prize Book

GRALETT WRIST WATCH
For Boys and Girls

A guaranteed watch. Handsome Chromium case, unbreakable crystal, genuine leather strap. This attractive wrist watch is given without cost.

COMPLETE WOODBURNING SET

Woodburning Set contains 3 metal tips, 8 wood plaques, metallic foil, paints, brush. Guaranteed, with complete instructions.

Official-Size • Official-Weight BASKETBALL

Sturdy valve-type ball. For indoor or outdoor use.

Complete MICROSCOPE OUTFIT

A precision-built Microscope Outfit. Has 60 power optical lens, slide glass and specimens. Don't miss this great outfit.

AIR CHAMP RADIO KIT

A genuine crystal radio. Build it. Use it. Listen to your favorite radio program.

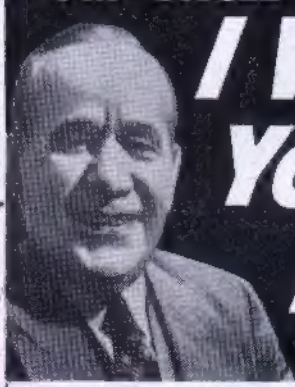
RANGER AXE 'n' KNIFE KIT

An all-purpose Axe 'n' Knife Kit in double leather belt sheath. Axe and knife made of tough carbon steel. Great kit for outdoors.

CHEMCRAFT CHEMISTRY SET

Amaze your friends with "Chemical Magic." You can perform eye-opening feats of chemical magic with this exciting new Chemcraft Chemistry Set. Magic book and instructions included free.

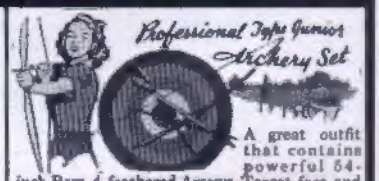
I'M "UNCLE" HARRY



I Will Send You PRIZES Like These

WITHOUT ONE CENT OF COST

I have been helping boys and girls get prizes and earn money for 36 years. Shown here are just a few of the wonderful Prizes you can get without a cent of cost for selling my famous Christmas Packs. Any of these prizes or your choice of over 50 others shown in my Free Prize Book are given for selling just one order of 24 Christmas Packs at 25c a pack. Many boys and girls sell the Packs in one day and get their prizes at once.



A great outfit that contains powerful 54-inch Bow, 4 feathered Arrows, Target face and complete instructions.

Hurry—Be First in Your Neighborhood

It's easy to sell these Christmas Packs to your family, friends and neighbors. Each Pack contains 4 Christmas Cards, 4 Envelopes and 32 Sparkling Christmas Seals—40 pieces for 25c—a big value. They're so gay and bright—they sell on sight. When sold, send me the money and choose your prize from my Free Prize Book. Or, keep $2.00 in cash for each 24 pack order you sell.

Send No Money—I Trust You

Paste coupon on postcard or mail in envelope to AMERICAN SPECIALTY CO., DEPT. 21, LANCASTER, PENNA.

Read What Wiley Johnson (Age 9) Says:

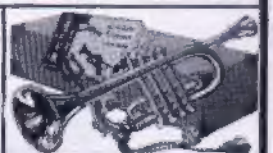
"Boy, when I look at all the prizes I got . . . a sports kit, axe and knife set, cookit set, knapsack, kombo knife, flashlight and frontier rifle, I can hardly believe it. Everybody liked your cards; I sold six orders in less than two weeks."

Here is What Maude Scott Says:

"It is fun and easy to sell your Christmas Packs. Everyone really liked them and they sold fast. I have orders for more. The prizes . . . and the extra money came in handy, too."

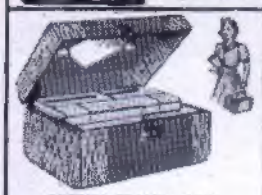
ACRO FLASH CAMERA with Film

This swell outfit includes Camera, Flash Gun and free Film Has Graf Lens. Takes pictures black and white or color. Makes beautiful enlargements.



Here it is—THE GOLDEN TRUMPET

Heavy gold-plated, over 13" long. Play bugle calls, marches and songs without lessons. Case and instructions included.



PRETTY TRAVEL CASE

Overnight Case with removable tray. Has mirror, lock and key.

GOLD-PLATED LOCKET SET

Pretty necklace with matching expansion bracelet, both gold plated. Each locket opens and holds two photographs.

MAIL THIS—Send No Money

"Uncle" Harry Bard, AMERICAN SPECIALTY CO.
DEPT. 21, LANCASTER, PENNA.

Please send me your BIG PRIZE BOOK and one order of 24 Christmas Packs. I will resell them at 25c each, send you the money and choose my prize.

Name_____

Address_____

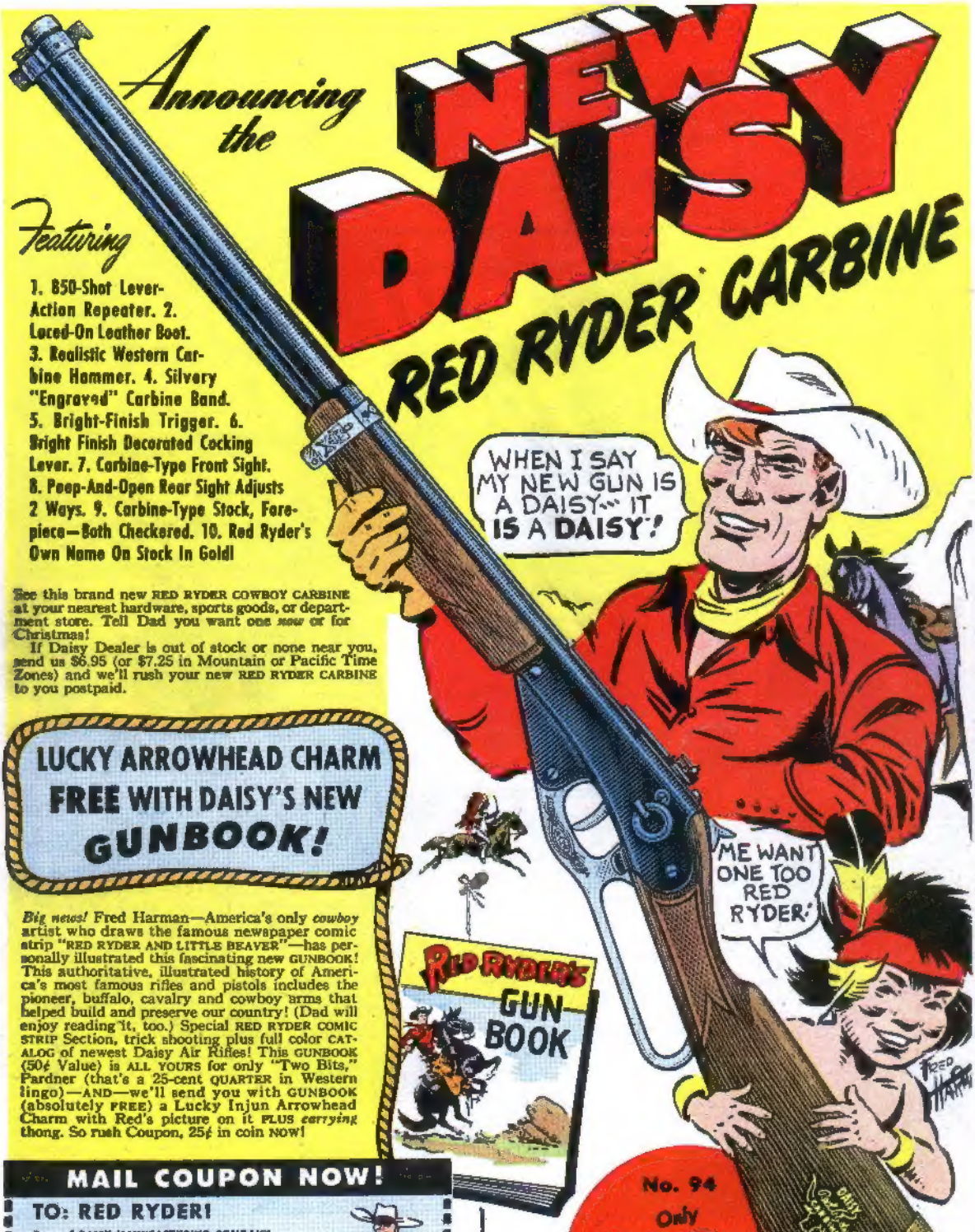
City_____ State_____

Announcing the

NEW DAISY RED RYDER CARBINE

Featuring

1. 850-Shot Lever-Action Repeater. 2. Laced-On Leather Boot. 3. Realistic Western Carbine Hammer. 4. Silvery "Engraved" Carbine Band. 5. Bright-Finish Trigger. 6. Bright Finish Decorated Cocking Lever. 7. Carbine-Type Front Sight. 8. Peep-And-Open Rear Sight Adjusts 2 Ways. 9. Carbine-Type Stock, Forepiece—Both Checkered. 10. Red Ryder's Own Name On Stock In Gold!


WHEN I SAY MY NEW GUN IS A DAISY— IT IS A DAISY!
ME WANT ONE TOO RED RYDER!
RED RYDER'S GUN BOOK
No. 94 Only $6.95
DAISY BULLS EYE BB SHOT IN TUBES, POUCH ...IS BEST FOR DAISY AIR RIFLES

See this brand new RED RYDER COWBOY CARBINE at your nearest hardware, sports goods, or department store. Tell Dad you want one *now* or for Christmas!

If Daisy Dealer is out of stock or none near you, send us $6.95 (or $7.25 in Mountain or Pacific Time Zones) and we'll rush your new RED RYDER CARBINE to you postpaid.

LUCKY ARROWHEAD CHARM FREE WITH DAISY'S NEW GUNBOOK!

Big news! Fred Harman—America's only *cowboy* artist who draws the famous newspaper comic strip "RED RYDER AND LITTLE BEAVER"—has personally illustrated this fascinating new GUNBOOK! This authoritative, illustrated history of America's most famous rifles and pistols includes the pioneer, buffalo, cavalry and cowboy arms that helped build and preserve our country! (Dad will enjoy reading it, too.) Special RED RYDER COMIC STRIP Section, trick shooting plus full color CATALOG of newest Daisy Air Rifles! This GUNBOOK (50¢ Value) is ALL YOURS for only "Two Bits," Pardner (that's a 25-cent QUARTER in Western lingo)—AND—we'll send you with GUNBOOK (absolutely FREE) a Lucky Injun Arrowhead Charm with Red's picture on it PLUS *carrying* thong. So rush Coupon, 25¢ in coin NOW!

MAIL COUPON NOW!

TO: RED RYDER!

Care of DAISY MANUFACTURING COMPANY

Dept. 1494, PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN, U.S.A.

I enclose "Two Bits," Red, for the new RED RYDER GUNBOOK. Send it to me postpaid and include FREE 1 Lucky Injun Arrowhead Charm! (GunBook contains latest Daisy Air Rifle Catalog Section.)

NAME _____

ST. & NO. _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

*LICENSED BY RED RYDER ENTERPRISES, INC., NEW YORK

Duty Added in Canada

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